

# STARBLAZER

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 159

24p



As big as a planet, it crushed whole nations with its frightening array of weapons. The final conflict had to take place on the surface of. . .

# BATTLEWORLD



## BATTLEWORLD

# STARBLAZER

**In a parallel galaxy, two races fought a bitter war. The brutal Arcon had slaughtered their way through the planetary system of Rega Neuva. The largest, most prosperous planet, Rega, had stood firm in the face of fearful casualties. But the Arcon had painstakingly constructed a gigantic, mobile fighting machine. A machine so devastatingly powerful that its power equalled that of a Class B Star — it was a . . .**

# BATTLEWORLD

**B**LASTING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH,  
THE BATTLEWORLD PENETRATED  
DEEP INTO REGAN AIRSPACE.



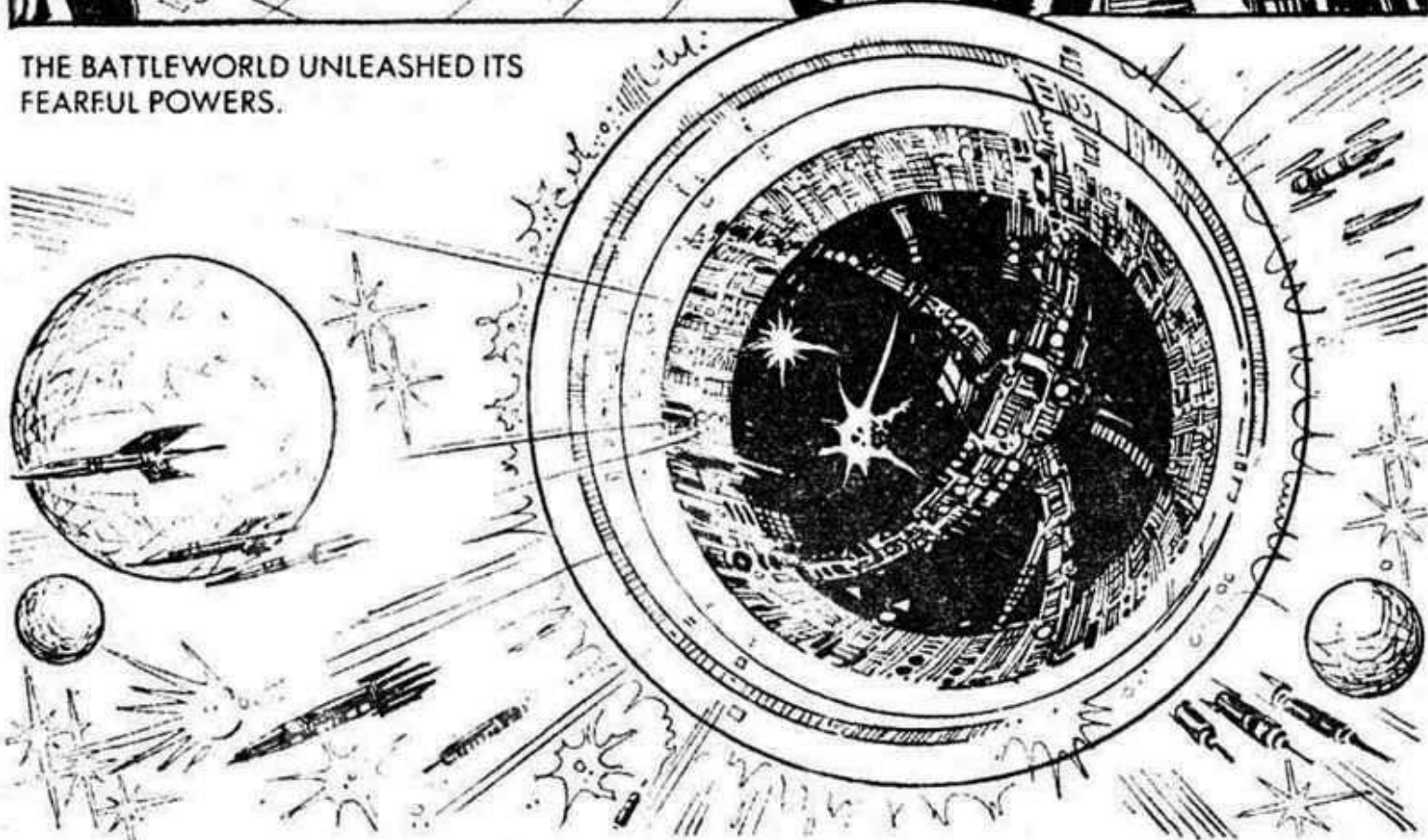


4  
IN THE CONTROL ROOM—

CONTROLLER ONE, WE ARE WITHIN  
RANGE OF THE REGAN STRONGHOLD.

ENERGISE AND DESTROY!

THE BATTLEWORLD UNLEASHED ITS  
FEARFUL POWERS.





AWESOME AMOUNTS OF ENERGY DEVASTATED  
REGA, AND EDDIES OF RAW POWER SWIRLED  
BACK—

IT'S SET OFF A CHAIN  
REACTION! IT—ARGHH!!

CAUGHT IN THE BACKLASH OF ENERGY,  
IT WAS HURLED FROM THE SYSTEM





... TO DRIFT IN INTERGALACTIC SPACE, POWERLESS TO RETURN.

NEARBY, IN AN EARTH OPERATIONS ROOM ...



DEEP SPACE SENSORS ARE PICKING UP AN INTRUDER ENTERING THE SOLAR SYSTEM ...



SOUND DEFENCE ALERT, AND ORDER THE STARFIGHTER SQUADRONS TO TAKE OFF IMMEDIATELY AND INVESTIGATE. GET AN IDENTIFICATION QUICKLY.

THE INTRUDER ALERT FLASHED ACROSS THE SOLAR SYSTEM TO THE STARFIGHTER BASE ON ONE OF THE MOONS OF SATURN.

FLIGHT ONE LAUNCHED, CONTROL.

CO-ORDS—  
0382 67501.





IN THE LEADING STARFIGHTER, HAL STORM SET COURSE FOR THE ALIEN INTRUDER.

CLOSING ON INTERCEPT  
CO-ORDINATES WITH THE INTRUDER.

WITHIN MINUTES THEY HAD SIGHTED THE INTERLOPER . . .

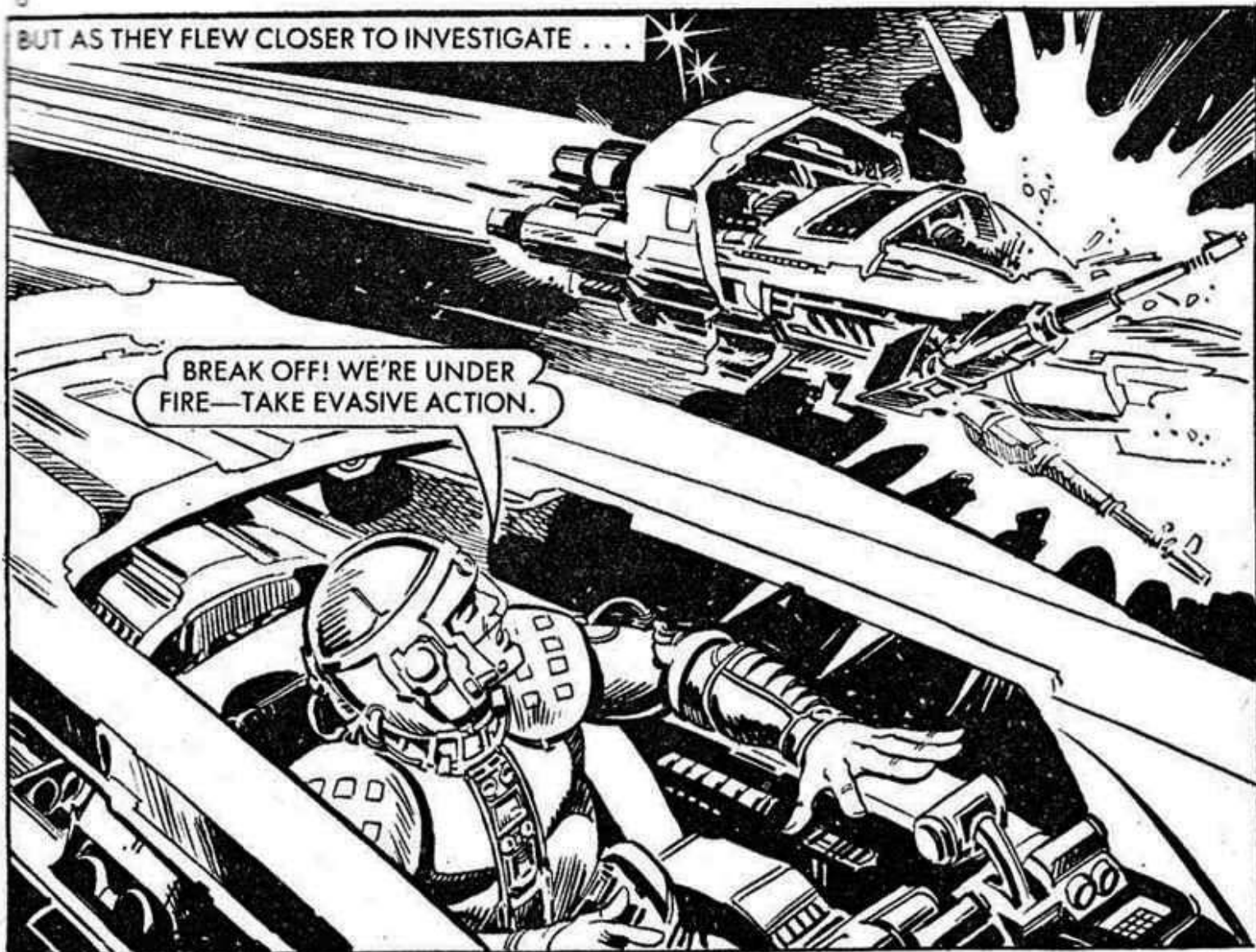
WE HAVE VISUAL CONTACT . . . IT'S  
INCREDIBLE, IT'S AN ALIEN SHIP OF NO  
KNOWN CONFIGURATION—BUT IT MUST  
BE A THOUSAND MILES IN DIAMETER!





BUT AS THEY FLEW CLOSER TO INVESTIGATE . . .

BREAK OFF! WE'RE UNDER  
FIRE—TAKE EVASIVE ACTION.



I'VE BEEN HIT! NO APPARENT DAMAGE,  
BUT THE CONTROLS WON'T RESPOND . . .



HAL FOUND HIMSELF CAUGHT IN A TRACTOR BEAM.

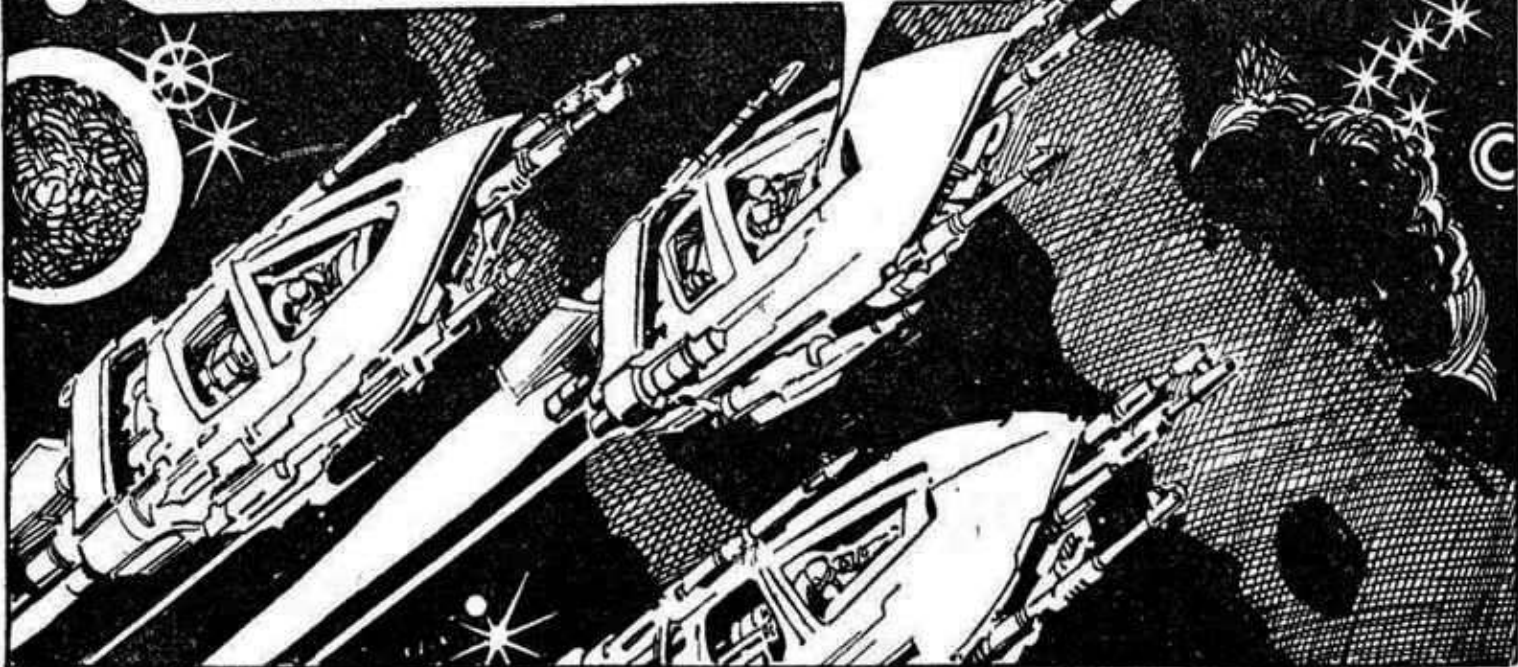






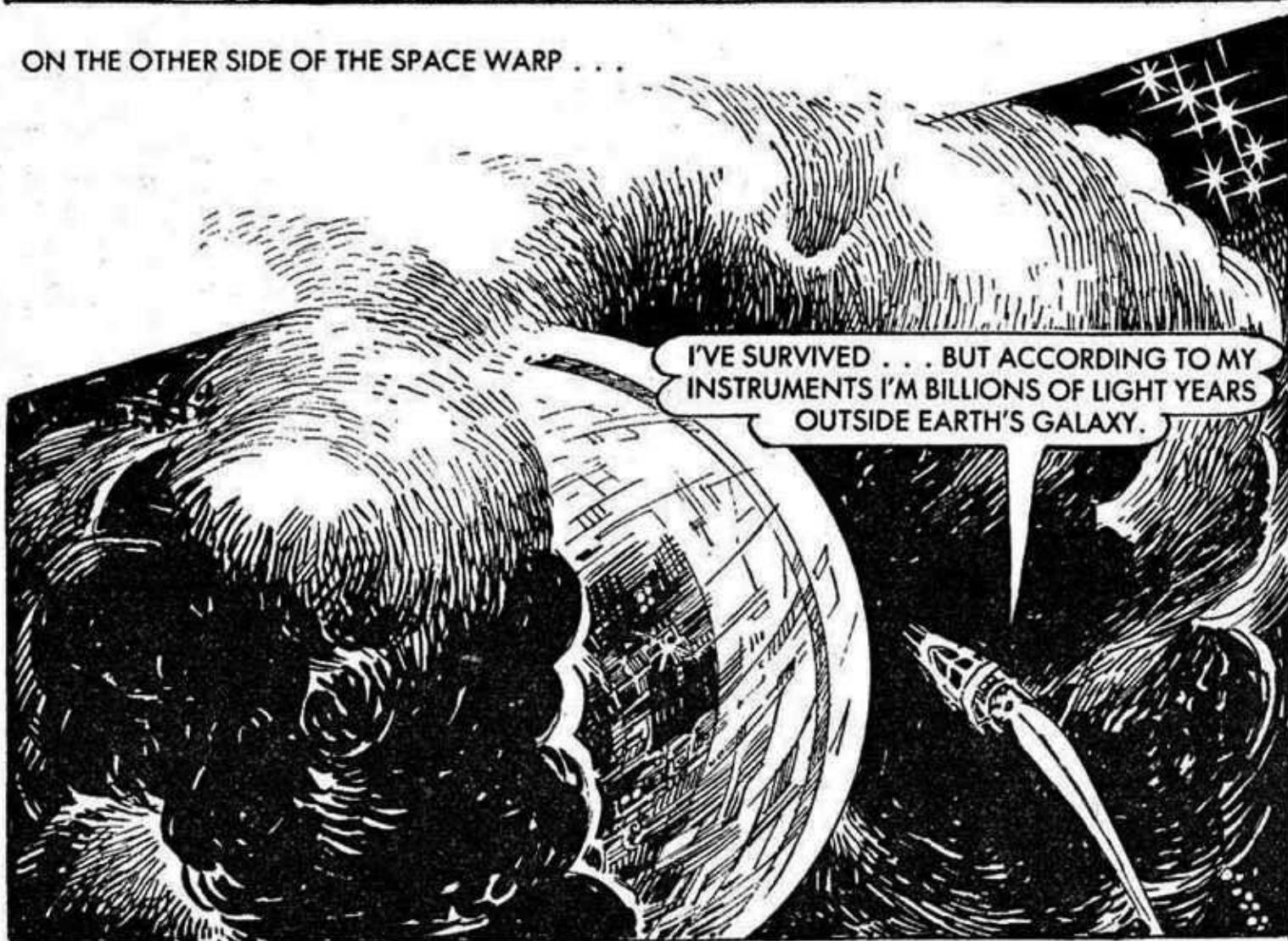
THE RESCUE FLIGHT ARRIVED TOO LATE.

THERE'S NO SIGN OF HIM . . . HAL'S SIMPLY DISAPPEARED!



ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SPACE WARP . . .

I'VE SURVIVED . . . BUT ACCORDING TO MY INSTRUMENTS I'M BILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS OUTSIDE EARTH'S GALAXY.





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AS THE BATTLE WORLD AND ITS CAPTIVE  
FELL AWAY FROM THE SPACE WARP . . .



I'M STILL BEING PULLED DOWN TO  
THE SURFACE. LOOKS LIKE SOME  
KIND OF LANDING PAD BELOW.

THE STARFIGHTER TOUCHED DOWN IN A STRANGE, ARTIFICIAL LANDSCAPE.



THE SHIP'S STILL BEING HELD—NO  
CHANCE OF LIFTING OFF AGAIN. I MAY  
AS WELL GET OUT AND EXPLORE.

THE INTRUDER'S HULL SEEMS TO HAVE ITS  
OWN GRAVITY FIELD. IT'S LIKE BEING ON  
THE SURFACE OF A PLANET.





SUDDENLY—



ORDERS WERE SHOUTED IN A STRANGE LANGUAGE—



BUT BEFORE THE ALIENS COULD CLOSE IN FOR  
THE KILL—



WHAT—?



ARCON TROOPS EMERGED FROM THE BATTLESTAR.



WE HAVE THE EARTHLING—  
LOWER THE PLATFORM.



DOORS CLOSED ABOVE THEM AND AS THE PAD DESCENDED THE AIR PRESSURE BEGAN TO RISE.



THE LANDING PAD HAD DESCENDED INTO A SPACE HANGAR.

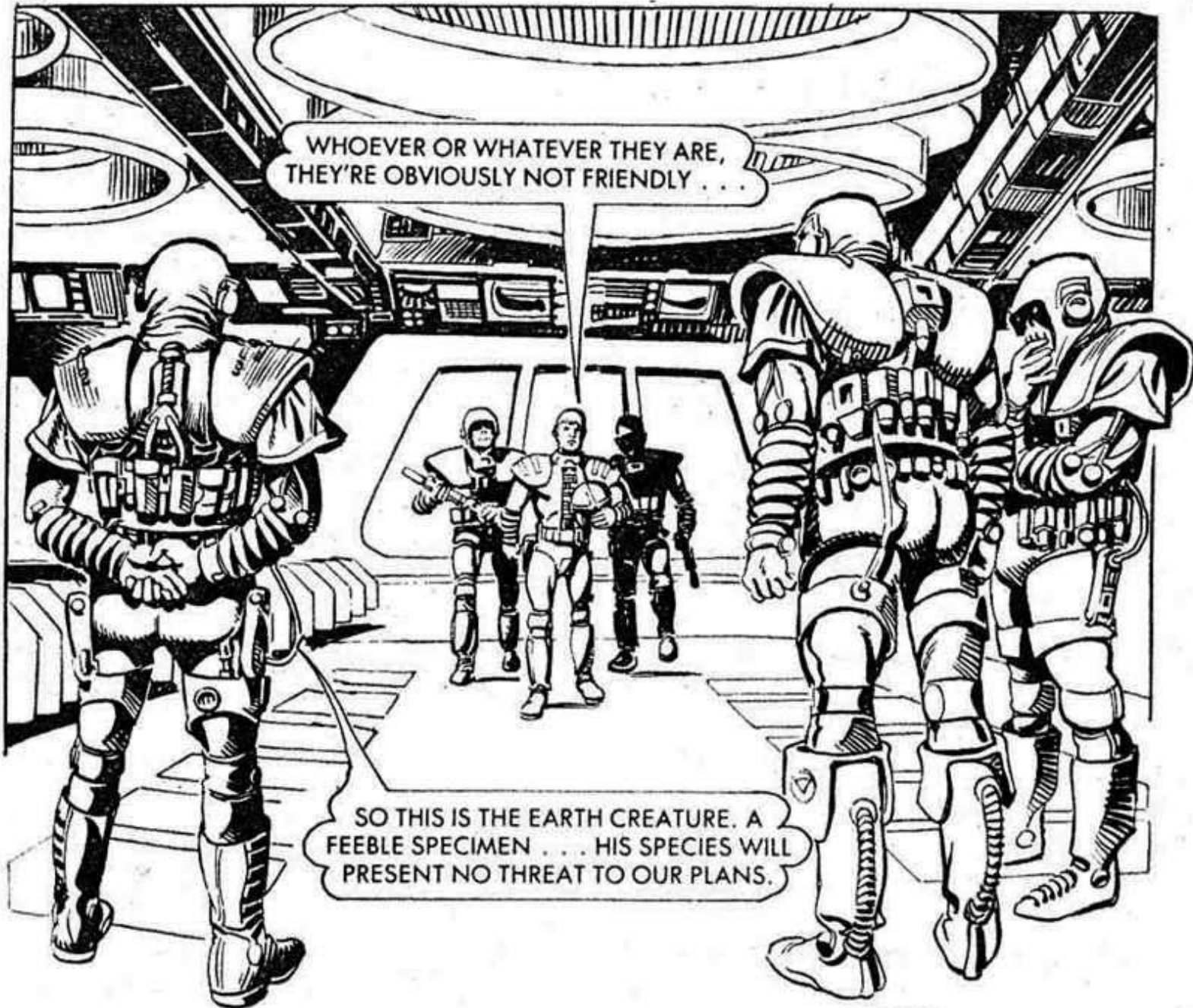
WE HAVE THE EARTH  
CREATURE AND HIS  
CRAFT, CONTROLLERS.

HAVE HIM BROUGHT  
HERE. MEANWHILE,  
CONTINUE TRACKING  
THE SPACE WARP.

YOU WILL REMOVE YOUR HELMET AND  
DROP YOUR WEAPON, EARTHMAN.



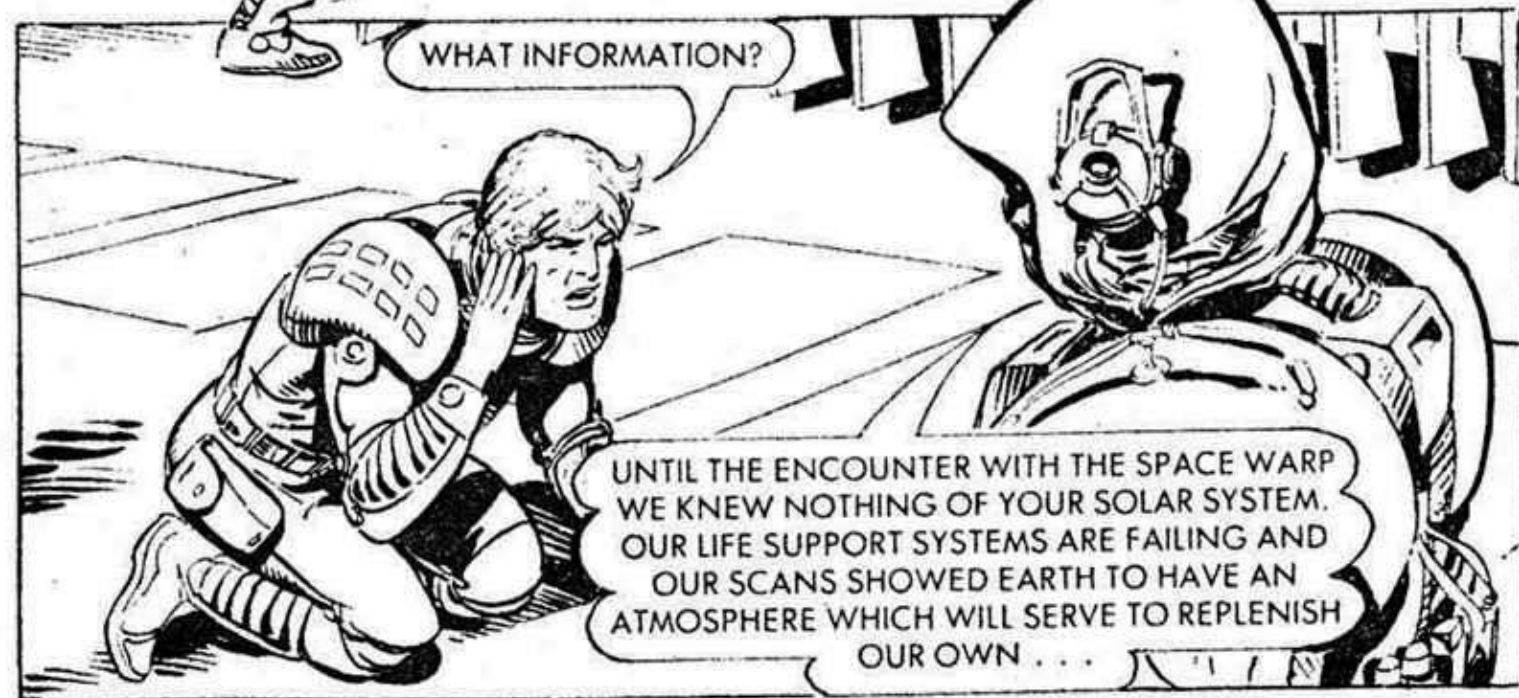






YOU WILL BE KILLED.

THE INFORMATION WE REQUIRE CAN BE QUITE EASILY EXTRACTED FROM YOUR BRAIN CELLS AFTER DEATH.

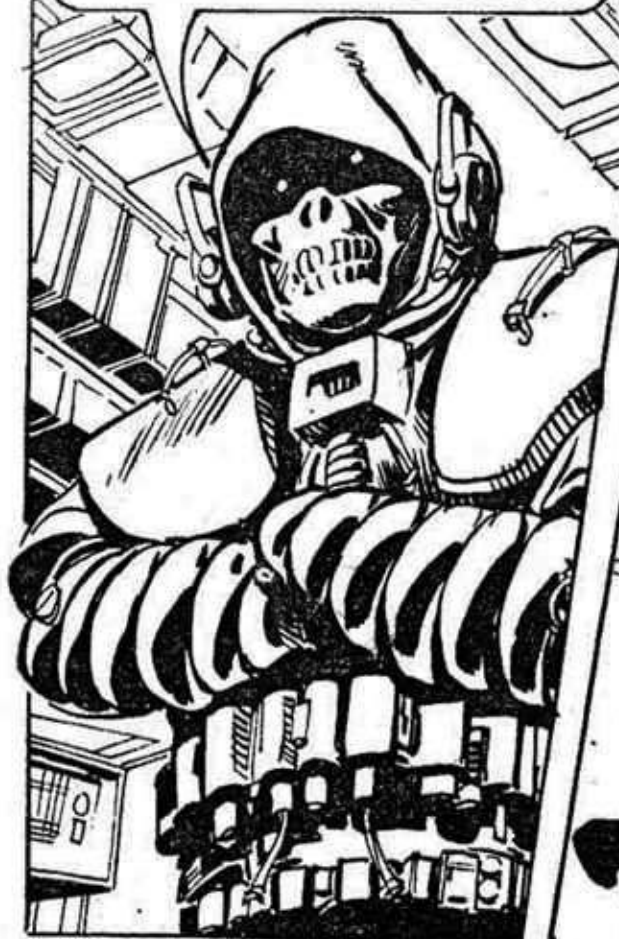


WHAT INFORMATION?

UNTIL THE ENCOUNTER WITH THE SPACE WARP WE KNEW NOTHING OF YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM. OUR LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS ARE FAILING AND OUR SCANS SHOWED EARTH TO HAVE AN ATMOSPHERE WHICH WILL SERVE TO REPLENISH OUR OWN . . .



YOUR PUNY PLANET WILL HAVE  
ITS PART TO PLAY IN THE  
DESTINY OF THE ARCON EMPIRE!



YOU'LL GET NO  
HELP FROM ME—



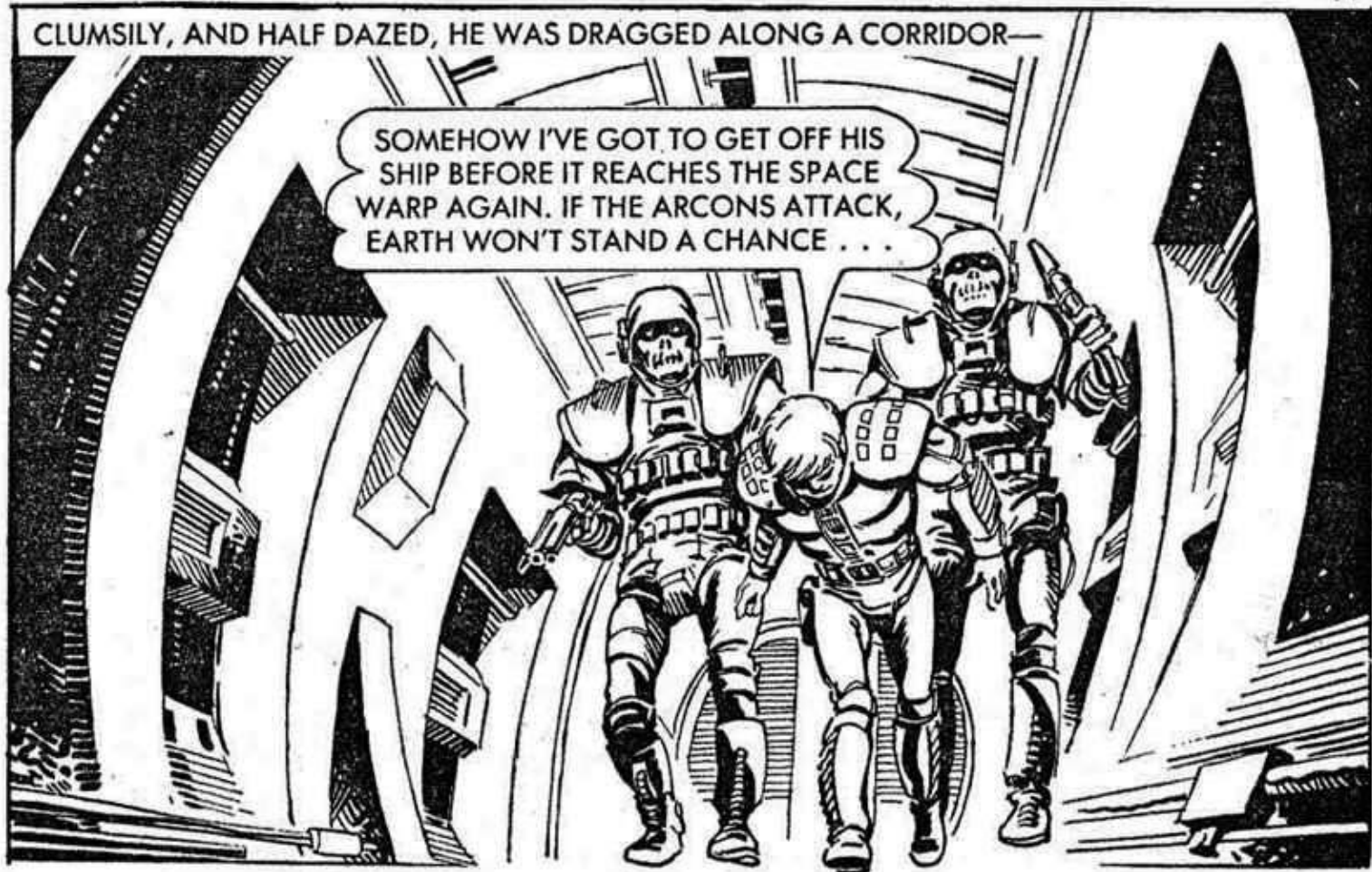
WE WILL! TAKE HIM AWAY AND PUT  
HIM WITH THE PRISONERS FROM  
REGA.

ONCE AGAIN HAL WAS KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS—



CLUMSILY, AND HALF DAZED, HE WAS DRAGGED ALONG A CORRIDOR—

SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO GET OFF HIS SHIP BEFORE IT REACHES THE SPACE WARP AGAIN. IF THE ARCONS ATTACK, EARTH WON'T STAND A CHANCE . . .



SUMMONING UP THE FULL POWER OF HIS WEAKENED BODY HE LAUNCHED HIMSELF AT A GUARD—







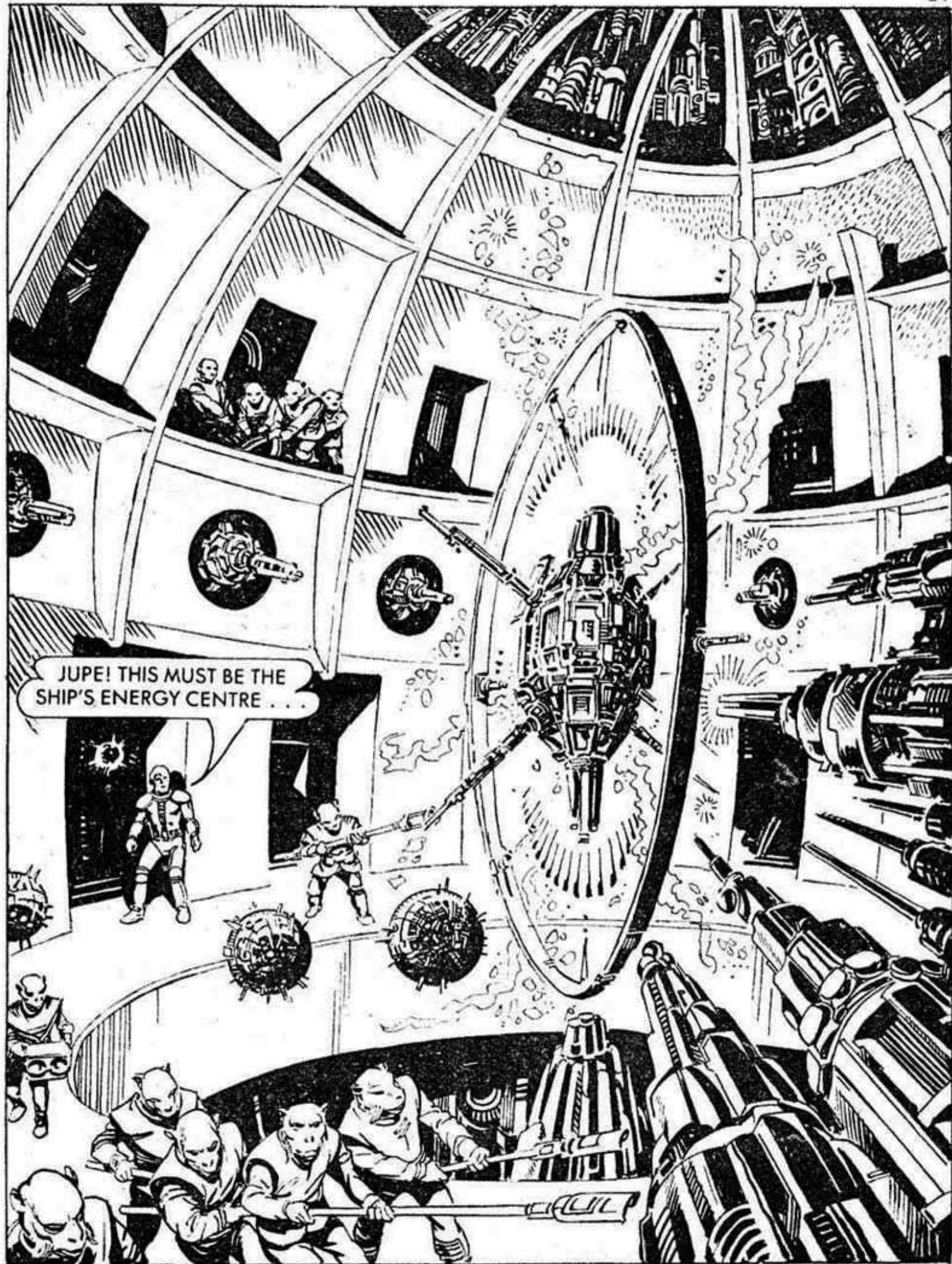
HAL WAS TAKEN TO AN AIRLOCK.



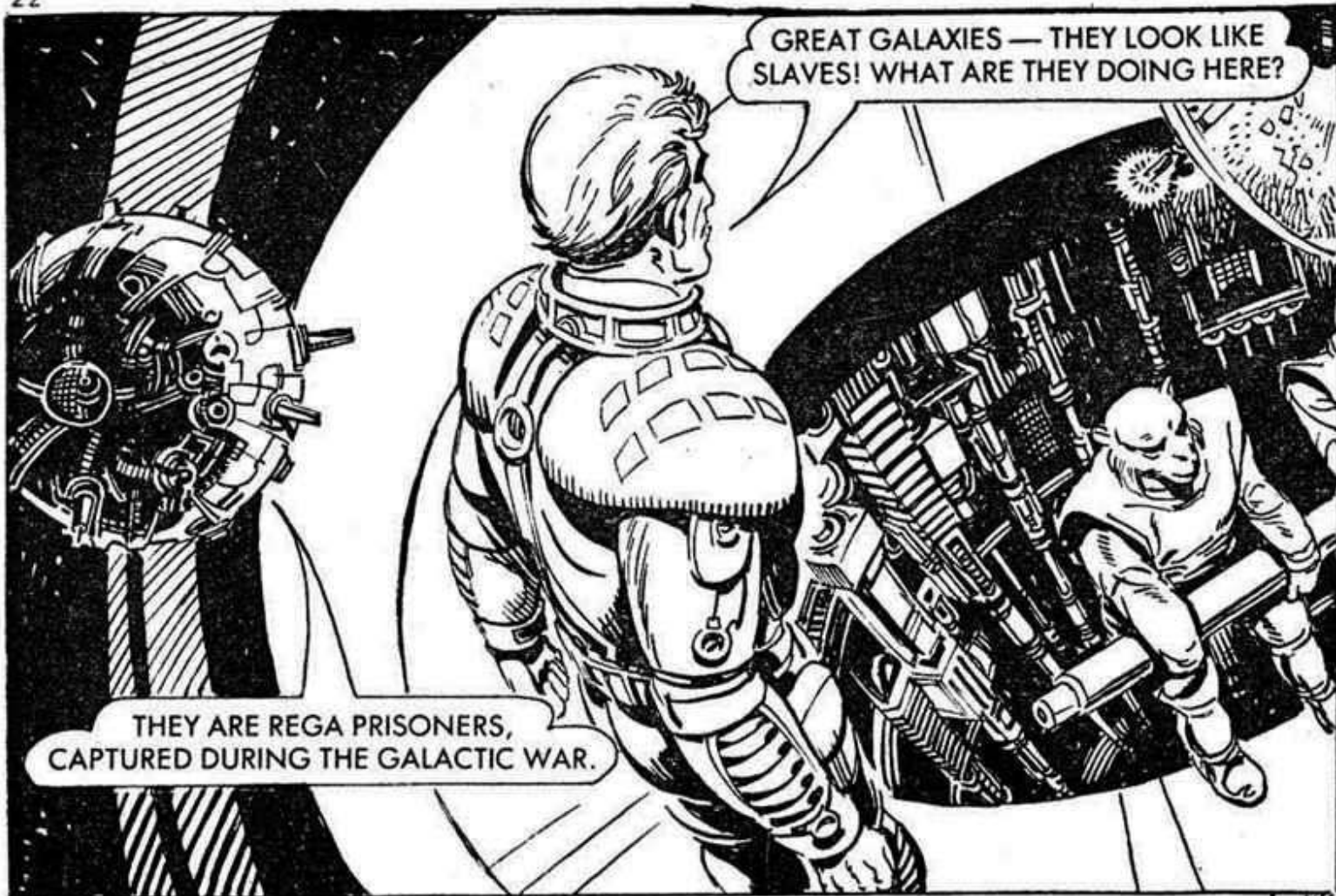
AS THE DOOR OPENED, HAL WAS CONFRONTED BY A GUARD ROBOT.

YOU WILL MOVE FORWARD OUT OF THE AIRLOCK, EARTHLING.











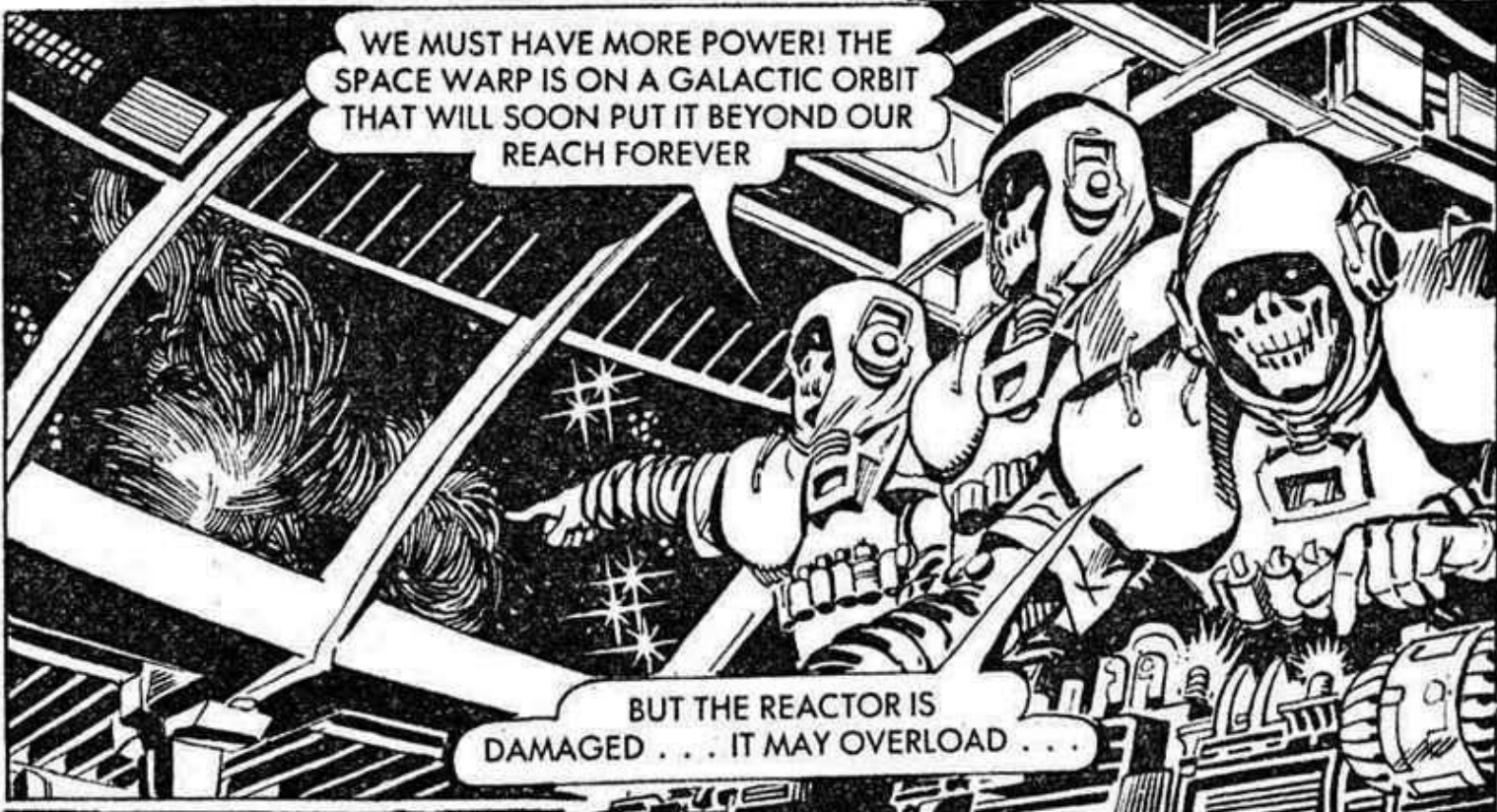


TO HAL'S SURPRISE, HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT THE ALIEN SAID. HIS TRANSLATOR PACK HAD FINALLY WORKED OUT THE LANGUAGE.



AS HAL WORKED IN THE ENERGY REACTOR, THE DAMAGED ARCON STARSHIP BEGAN TO MOVE THROUGH SPACE IN PURSUIT OF THE SPACE WARP.





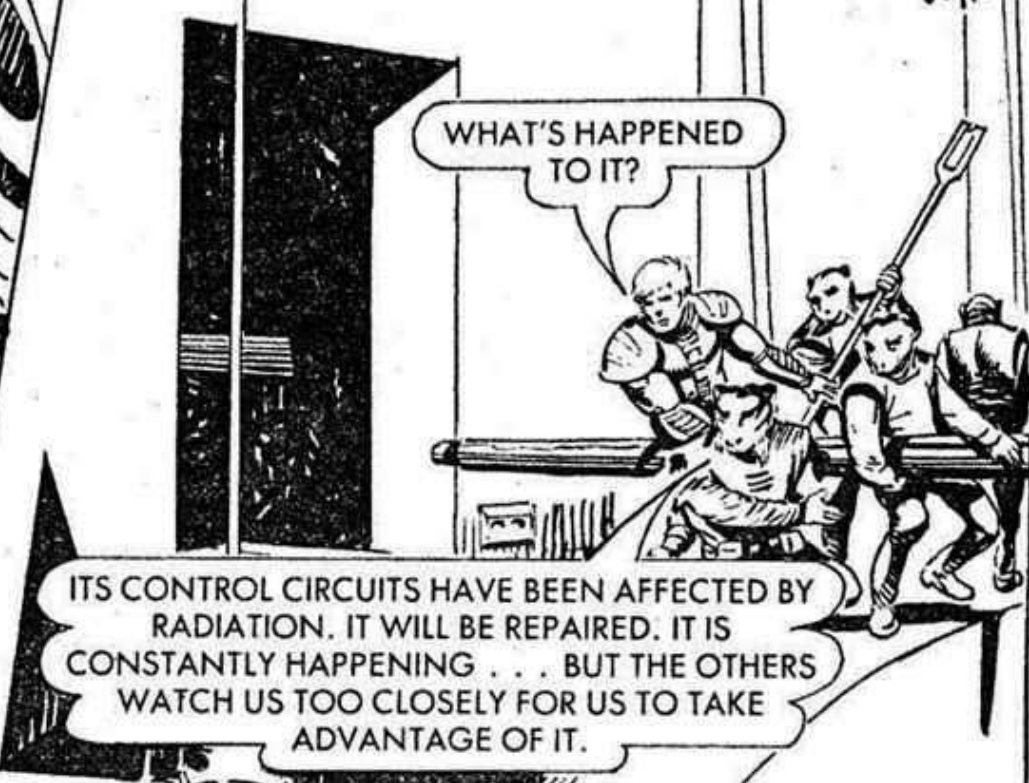
WE MUST HAVE MORE POWER! THE SPACE WARP IS ON A GALACTIC ORBIT THAT WILL SOON PUT IT BEYOND OUR REACH FOREVER

BUT THE REACTOR IS DAMAGED . . . IT MAY OVERLOAD . . .



WE MUST RECAPTURE THE SPACE WARP!

IN THE REACTOR ROOM, ONE OF THE SPHERES SUDDENLY CRASHED . . .

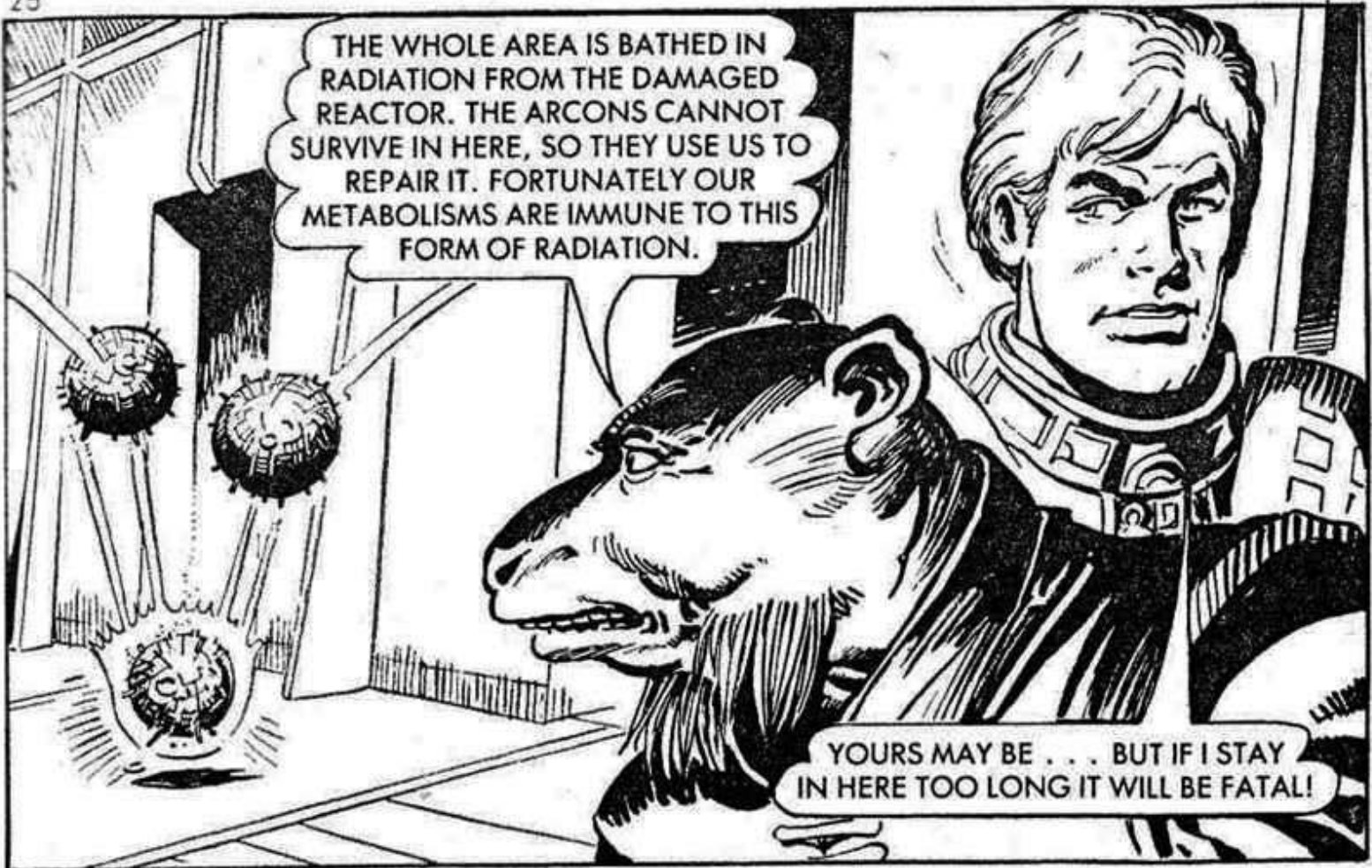


WHAT'S HAPPENED TO IT?

ITS CONTROL CIRCUITS HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY RADIATION. IT WILL BE REPAIRED. IT IS CONSTANTLY HAPPENING . . . BUT THE OTHERS WATCH US TOO CLOSELY FOR US TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT.







THE WHOLE AREA IS BATHED IN RADIATION FROM THE DAMAGED REACTOR. THE ARCONS CANNOT SURVIVE IN HERE, SO THEY USE US TO REPAIR IT. FORTUNATELY OUR METABOLISMS ARE IMMUNE TO THIS FORM OF RADIATION.

YOURS MAY BE . . . BUT IF I STAY IN HERE TOO LONG IT WILL BE FATAL!

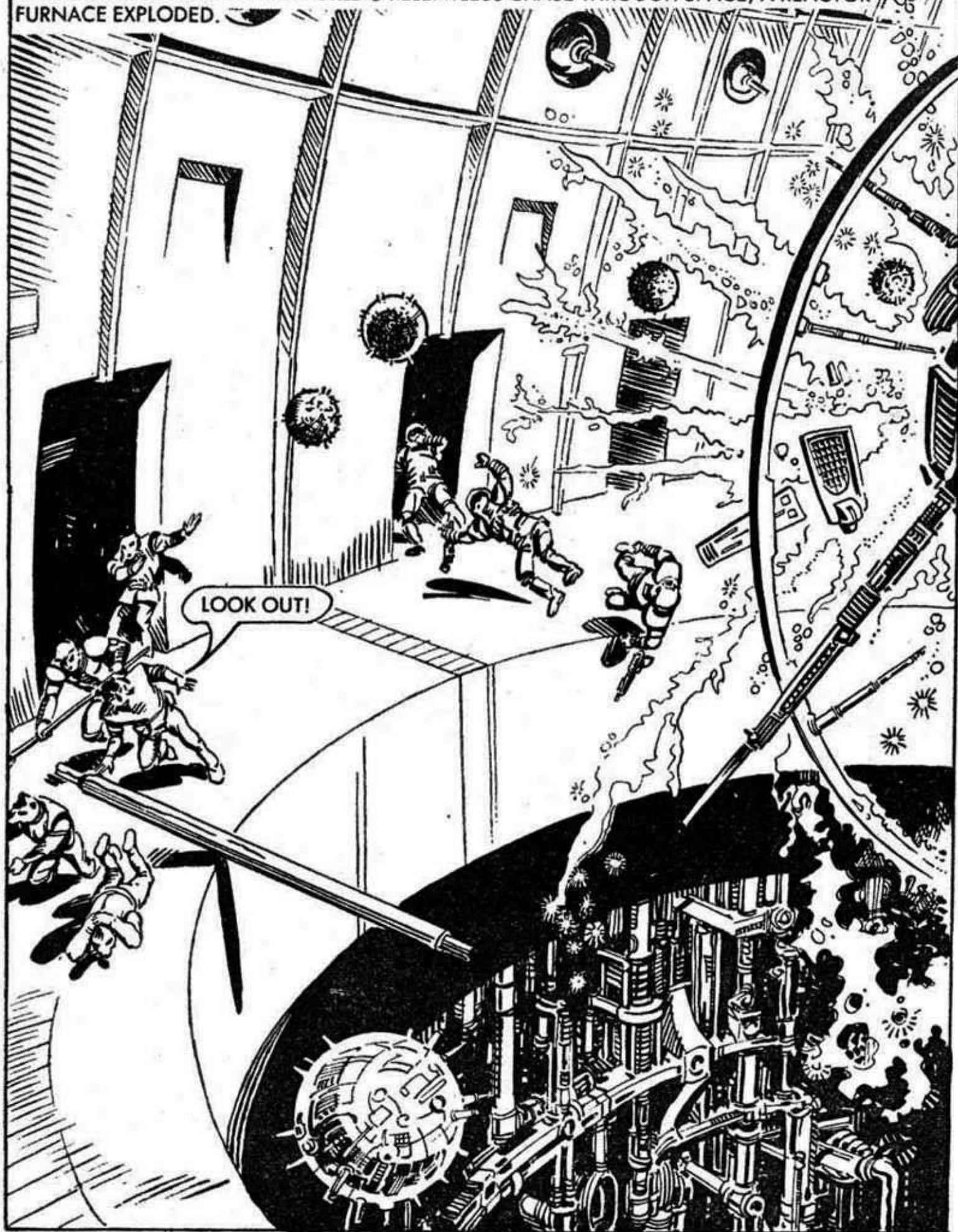


BUT YOU CANNOT ESCAPE, THE SENTINELS WATCH US TOO CLOSELY.



THE REACTOR . . . IT'S GOING OUT OF CONTROL.

OVERLOADED BY THE BATTLE WORLD'S RELENTLESS CHASE THROUGH SPACE, A REACTOR FURNACE EXPLODED.





COME ON! THIS IS OUR  
CHANCE TO ESCAPE!



THIS WAY . . .

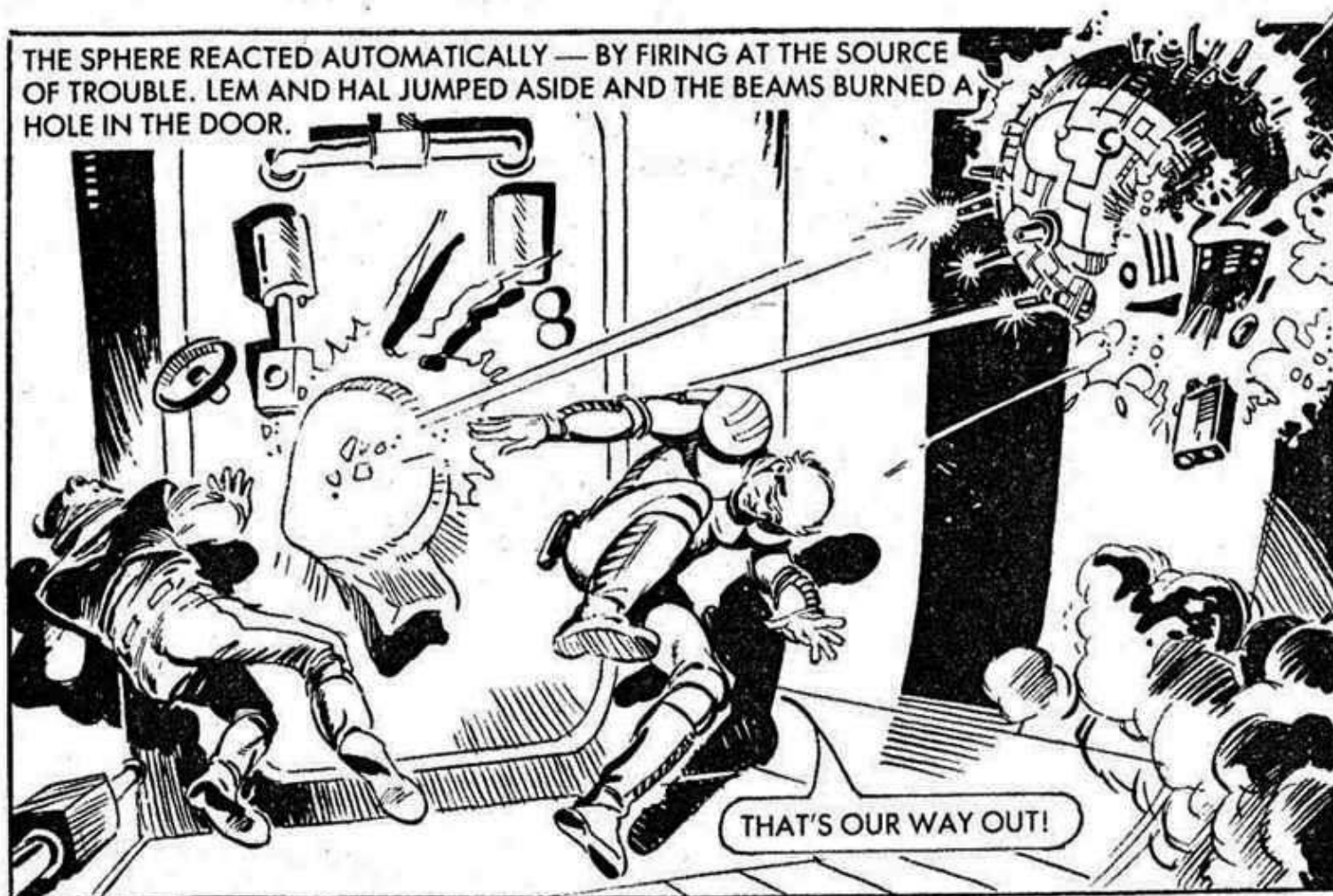


LET'S SEE IF ONE OF THOSE  
GLOBES WILL OPEN IT FOR US . . .



HE HURLED DEBRIS AT THE GLOBE—

THE SPHERE REACTED AUTOMATICALLY — BY FIRING AT THE SOURCE  
OF TROUBLE. LEM AND HAL JUMPED ASIDE AND THE BEAMS BURNED A  
HOLE IN THE DOOR.



THAT'S OUR WAY OUT!





THE TWO FLED QUICKLY—

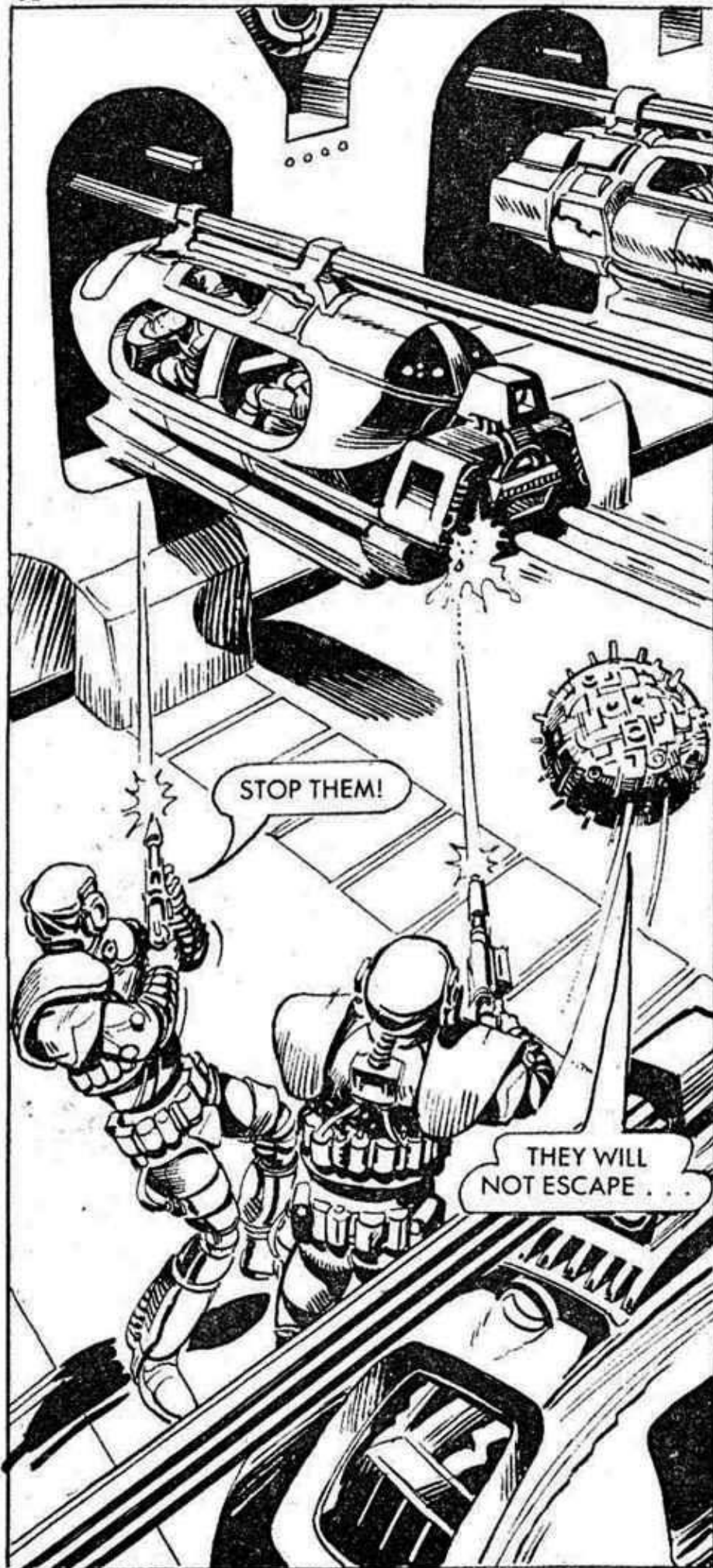
THE SENTINELS REPORT THAT TWO OF  
THE PRISONERS HAVE ESCAPED INTO  
THE SHIP!

SEAL OFF THE AREA AND DESPATCH  
MORE SENTINELS TO ELIMINATE THEM.










INSIDE THE SHUTTLE . . .


THAT'S WRONG?

THE CONTROLS WON'T  
OPERATE. ONE OF THE  
GUARDS MUST HAVE  
BLASTED A CONTROL  
LINE . . . I CAN'T STOP THE  
SHUTTLE.




AT LEAST WE'RE  
CLEAR OF THE GUARDS.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND—  
WE'RE HEADING INTO THE  
DEAD ZONE—PART OF THE  
BATTLEWORLD THAT WAS  
BLASTED OPEN IN THE  
DESTRUCTION OF MY  
PLANET. WHEN WE REACH  
THE END OF THE TUNNEL,  
WE'LL SIMPLY SHOOT OUT  
INTO SPACE . . .



MUCH AS I WANT TO GET OFF THIS SHIP,  
THAT'S NOT THE WAY I'D PLAN TO DO IT.  
UGH—THAT SHOULD STOP US.

AS HAL SHORT-CIRCUITED THE POWER LINES, THE  
SHUTTLE SLOWED TO A HALT . . .



THAT WAS ALMOST TOO CLOSE!  
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE, LEM?





HAL TOLD HIS STORY—



IF WE'RE GOING DOWN THERE, YOU'LL  
NEED A SPACE SUIT. SEE IF ONE OF  
THESE FITS . . .



THE CREATURES THAT ATTACKED  
YOU ON THE SURFACE MUST HAVE  
BEEN ROBOTIC REGA SOLDIERS  
. . . WE LEFT SOME TO ATTACK AND  
HARRY THE ARCON.

I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY ATTACKED  
ME, THOUGH—BUT ANYTHING'S  
BETTER THAN GOING BACK IN THERE  
TO FACE THE ARCONS.

HAL SEALED HIS SUIT AND THEY PREPARED TO LEAVE THE SHUTTLE.







AS THE PRESSURE BUILT UP . . .

OUR SPACE SUITS ARE NOT MADE TO  
TAKE EXTERNAL PRESSURE . . . YOU'LL  
KILL US BOTH.

JUST A LITTLE MORE . . .  
THIS MUST WORK.

THE SHUTTLE HATCH GROANED AND EXPLODED OUTWARDS!

IT'S SMASHED INTO THE SENTINEL.  
LET'S MOVE, BEFORE IT RECOVERS.



HAL AND LEM BEGAN TO DESCEND THE CRATER WALL.



HOW DO WE FIND  
MY PEOPLE?

I'M HOPING THAT THEY'LL FIND US—  
BEFORE THE ARCONS GET HERE.

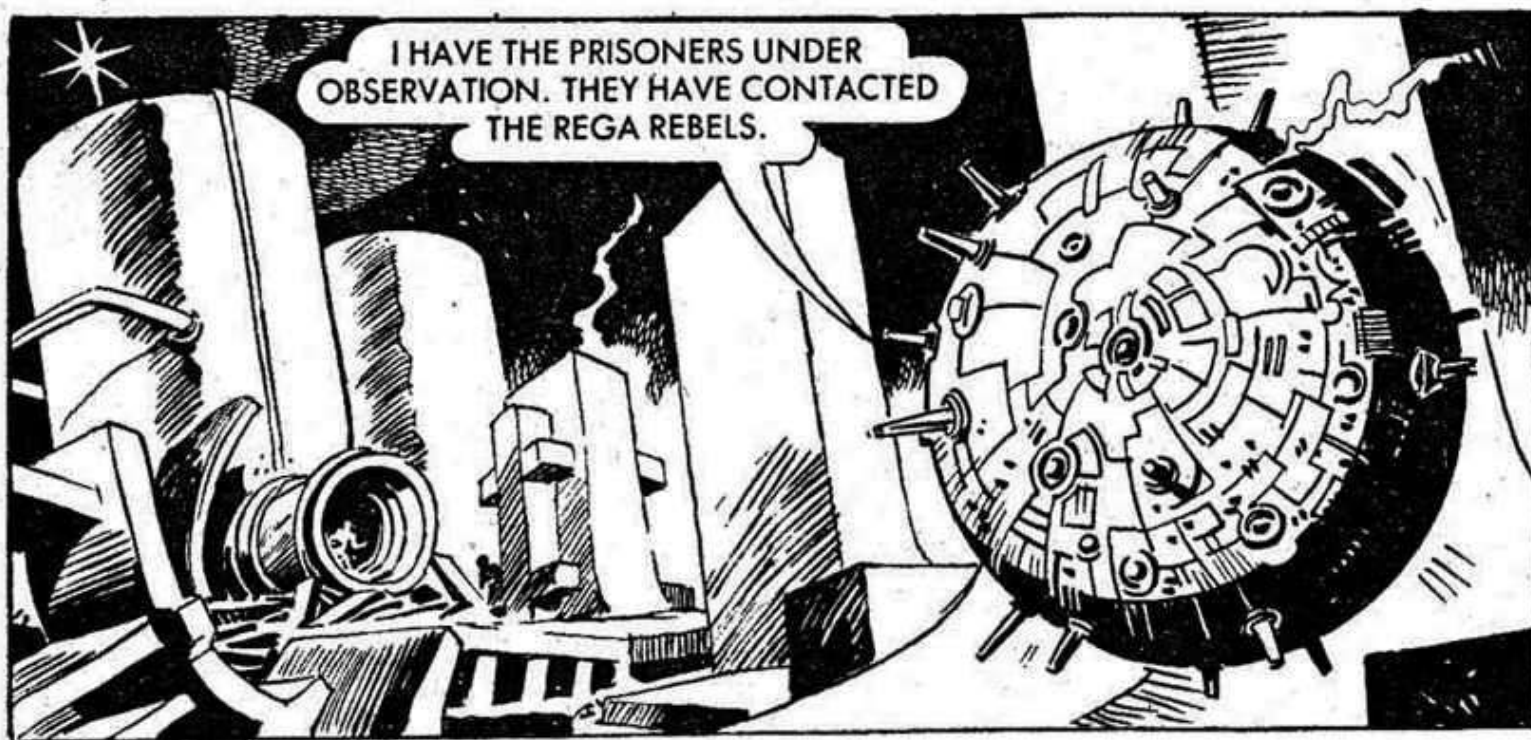





THIS IS OUR HEADQUARTERS . . . A FUEL TANK WHICH WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REPAIR AND REPRESSURISE. THE ARCONS WILL NOT FIND US HERE.




I HAVE THE PRISONERS UNDER OBSERVATION. THEY HAVE CONTACTED THE REGA REBELS.






WE THOUGHT YOUR SHIP WAS A RECOVERY VESSEL FROM THE ARCON GALAXY—THAT IS WHY WE ATTACKED YOU, EARTHMAN. BUT HOW DID THE ARCONS CAPTURE YOU?

HAL EXPLAINED ABOUT EARTH AND THE SPACE WAR.



THEY WILL DRAIN YOUR PLANET OF ITS ATMOSPHERE TO REPLENISH THEIR OWN WANING SUPPLY, THEN THEY WILL RETURN TO THEIR OWN GALAXY, PLUNDERING AND DESTROYING AS THEY GO. THAT IS WHY THEY MUST BE STOPPED, EVEN IF IT MEANS OUR OWN DEATHS.

BUT HOW DID YOU GET HERE?



WE WERE A SABOTAGE SQUAD, LANDED HERE JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE WORLD DESTROYED REGA. WHEN IT WAS BLOWN FROM OUR GALAXY, WE WERE TRAPPED ABOARD, TOO FEW TO DESTROY THE SHIP. BUT MILLIONS OF OUR PEOPLE EVACUATED THE PLANET BEFORE THE ATTACK CAME.

THERE CAN'T BE MANY OF YOU HERE—BUT THERE MUST BE OVER A HUNDRED REGA PRISONERS INSIDE THE SHIP. COULDN'T WE ORGANISE THEM INTO A REBELLION AND TAKE OVER.



MEANWHILE, JUST OUTSIDE—

THERE IS THE REBEL HEADQUARTERS  
... PREPARE TO ATTACK.



CAPTAIN! OUR SCOUTS ARE BEING  
ATTACKED—THE ARCONS HAVE FOUND US!






NONE OF THE  
REBELS MUST ESCAPE!

THEY'RE GETTING PAST  
YOUR DEFENCES. IS THERE  
AN ESCAPE ROUTE OUT OF  
HERE?


OF COURSE, BUT THEY  
WOULD SIMPLY FOLLOW.



THE REGA BEGAN TO GO OUT THROUGH THE ESCAPE HATCH . . .



IF YOUR PEOPLE ESCAPE, I WILL REMAIN  
HERE TO HOLD THE ARCONS OFF WITH  
YOUR REMOTE-CONTROLLED WEAPONS.  
WHEN I THINK YOU'RE CLEAR, I'LL LET THEM  
CAPTURE ME. WITH LUCK, THEY'LL PUT ME  
BACK WITH THE PRISONERS.



GOOD LUCK, EARTHMAN. I  
SALUTE YOUR BRAVERY . . .

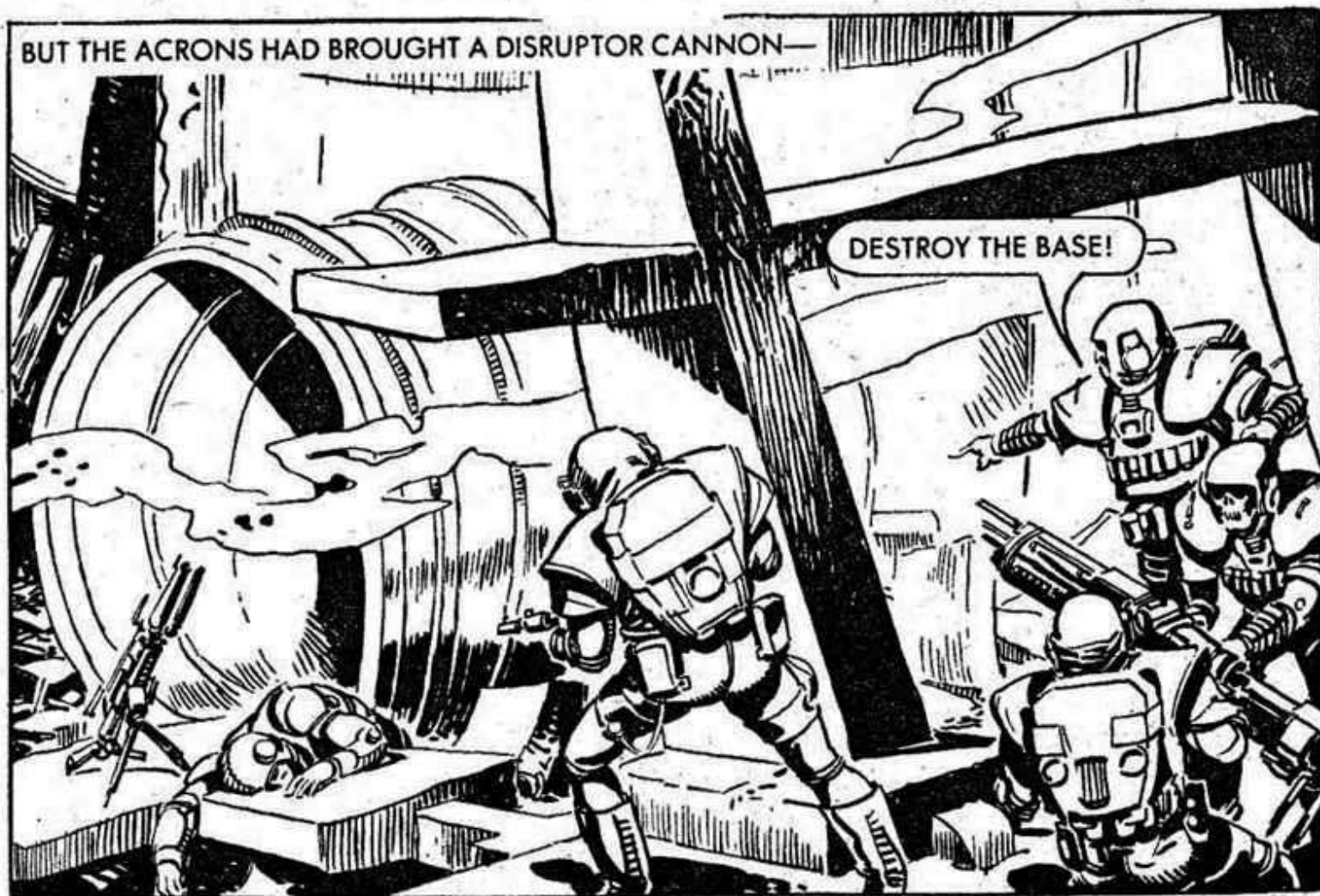
SOON HAL WAS ALONE—

HERE COME THE ARCONS AGAIN.  
NOW TO MAKE THIS LOOK GOOD . . .



BUT THE ARCONS HAD BROUGHT A DISRUPTOR CANNON—

DESTROY THE BASE!





THE REGA HIDEOUT WAS BLASTED APART.





MOVE IN—KILL  
ANY SURVIVORS.



COMMANDER, WE HAVE FOUND THE EARTH  
CREATURE. IT IS UNCONSCIOUS.

BRING HIM HERE. WE  
TAKE HIM BACK ALIVE.



THE REBELS MUST HAVE ESCAPED.  
SQUAD TWO WILL FOLLOW, WE WILL  
RETURN THE EARTHMAN TO THE  
CONTROLLERS.

I HOPE HAL IS ALL RIGHT.  
LET'S GET MOVING—WE  
MUST MAKE SURE OF OUR  
PART IN HIS PLAN.



WHEN THE REGA SET OFF ACROSS THE BATTLEWORLD HULL TOWARDS THE SPACE HANGAR, THE ARCON DRAGGED HAL AWAY.



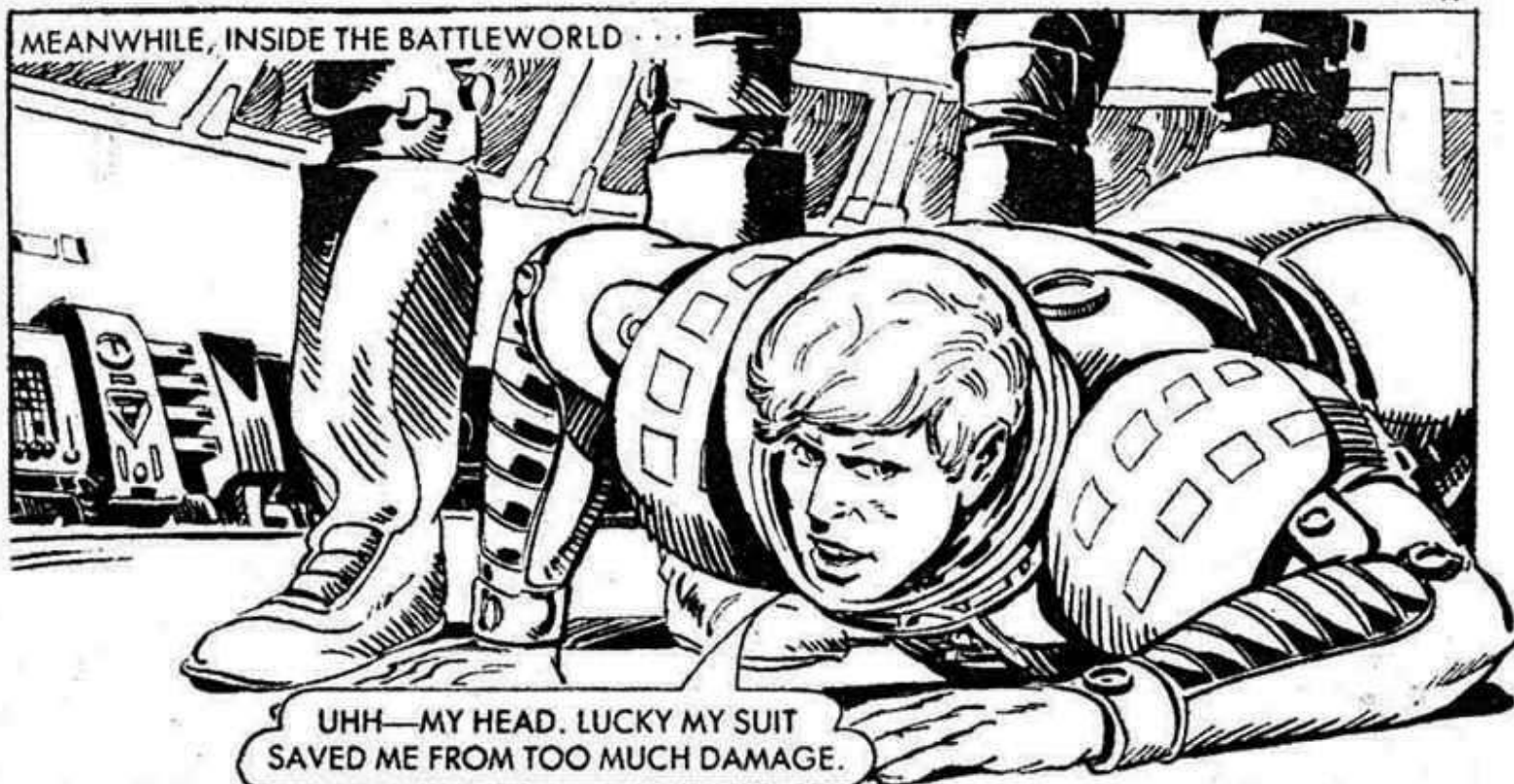
THE REGA WERE WORRIED—

LOOK—THE SPACE WARP . . . WE'RE GETTING NEARER AGAIN.



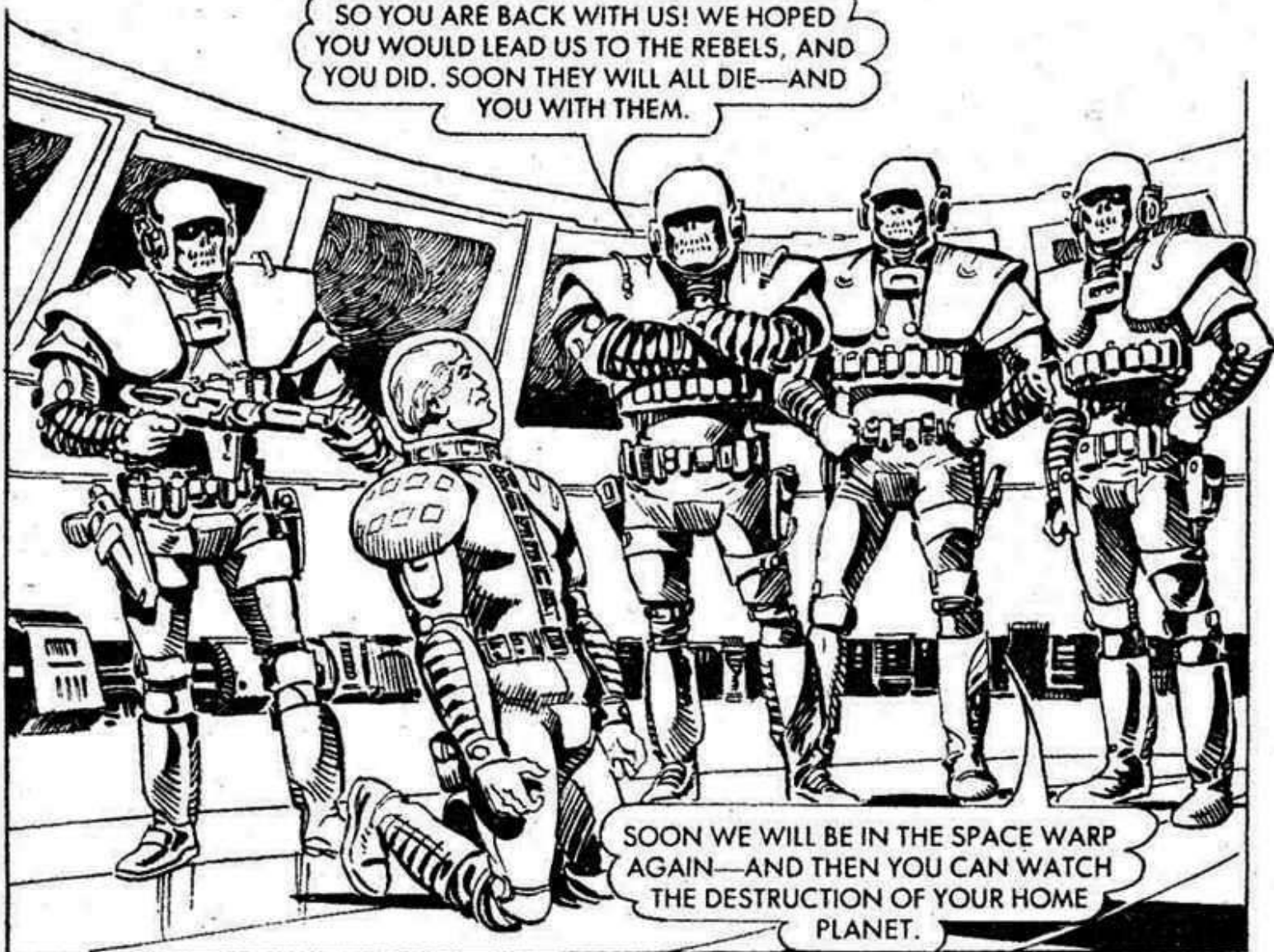
WE MUST FIND A SAFE PLACE NOW THAT OUR HIDEOUT IS NO MORE, OTHERWISE WHEN WE HIT THE WARP WE'LL BE SWEEPED OFF THE SURFACE.

MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE BATTLEWORLD . . .



UHH—MY HEAD. LUCKY MY SUIT  
SAVED ME FROM TOO MUCH DAMAGE.

SO YOU ARE BACK WITH US! WE HOPED  
YOU WOULD LEAD US TO THE REBELS, AND  
YOU DID. SOON THEY WILL ALL DIE—AND  
YOU WITH THEM.



SOON WE WILL BE IN THE SPACE WARP  
AGAIN—AND THEN YOU CAN WATCH  
THE DESTRUCTION OF YOUR HOME  
PLANET.

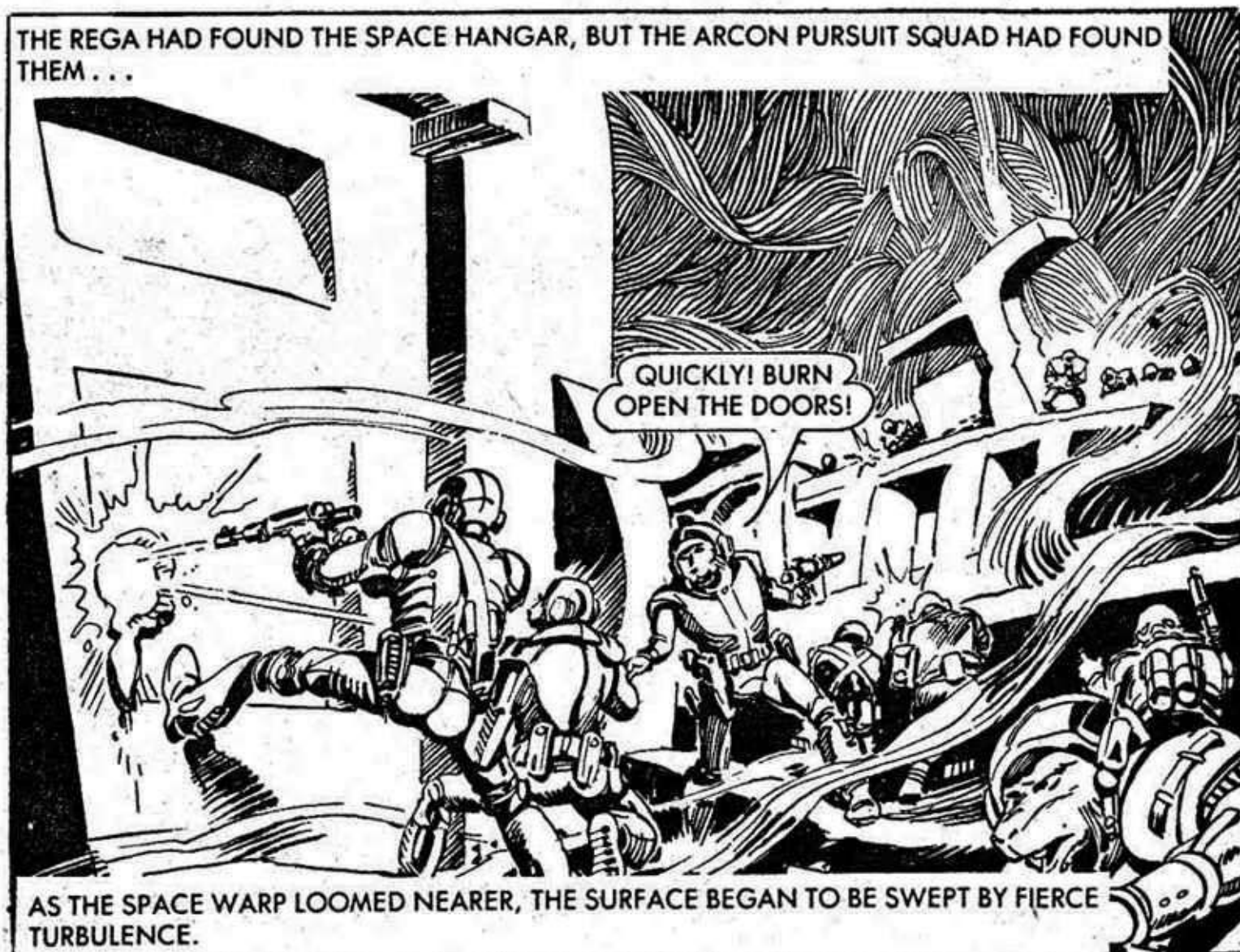


LEM AND THE OTHERS—IF THEY'RE STILL  
OUTSIDE, THE SPACE WARP WILL KILL  
THEM!



THE REGA HAD FOUND THE SPACE HANGAR, BUT THE ARCON PURSUIT SQUAD HAD FOUND  
THEM . . .

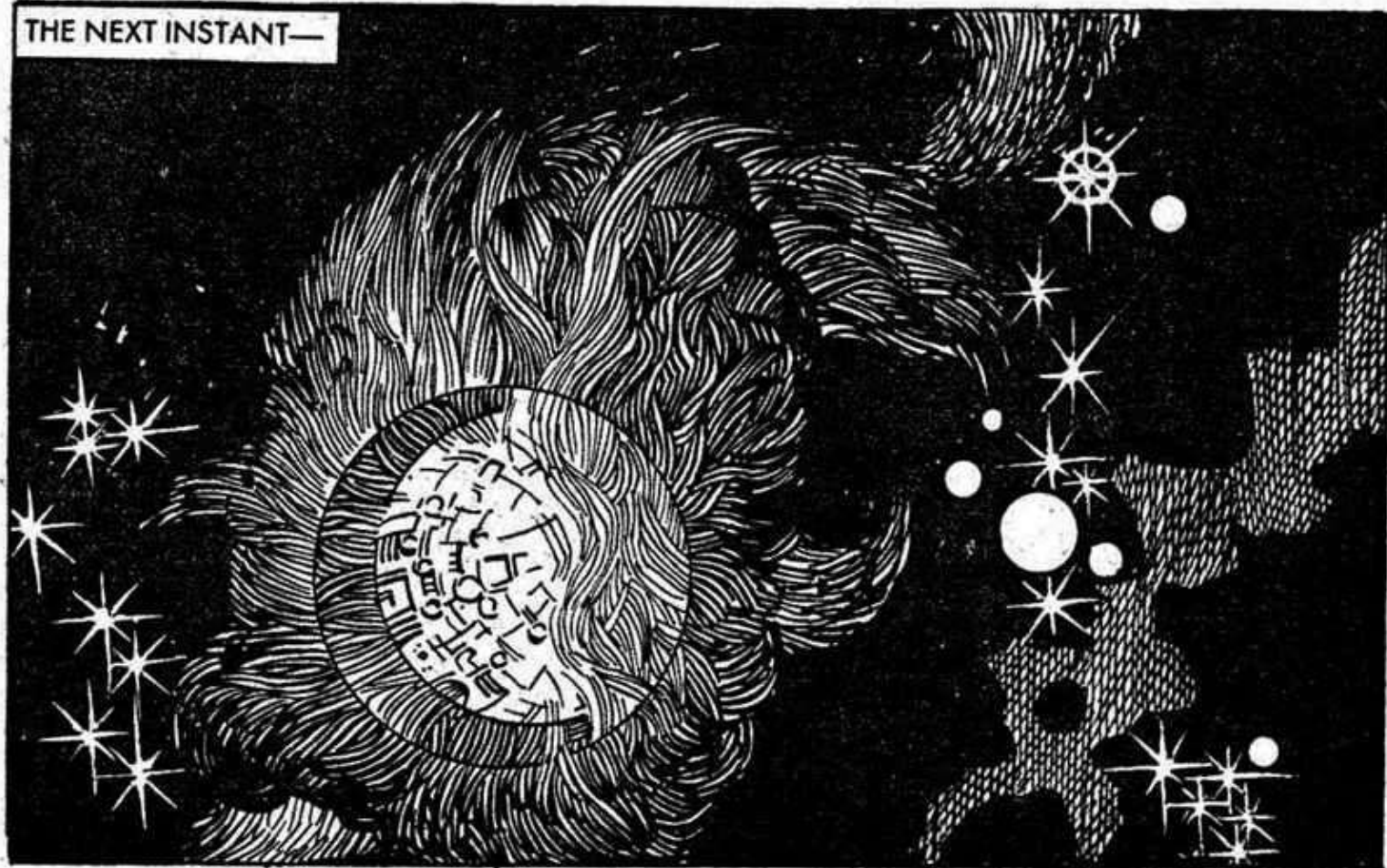
QUICKLY! BURN  
OPEN THE DOORS!



AS THE SPACE WARP LOOMED NEARER, THE SURFACE BEGAN TO BE SWEEPED BY FIERCE  
TURBULENCE.

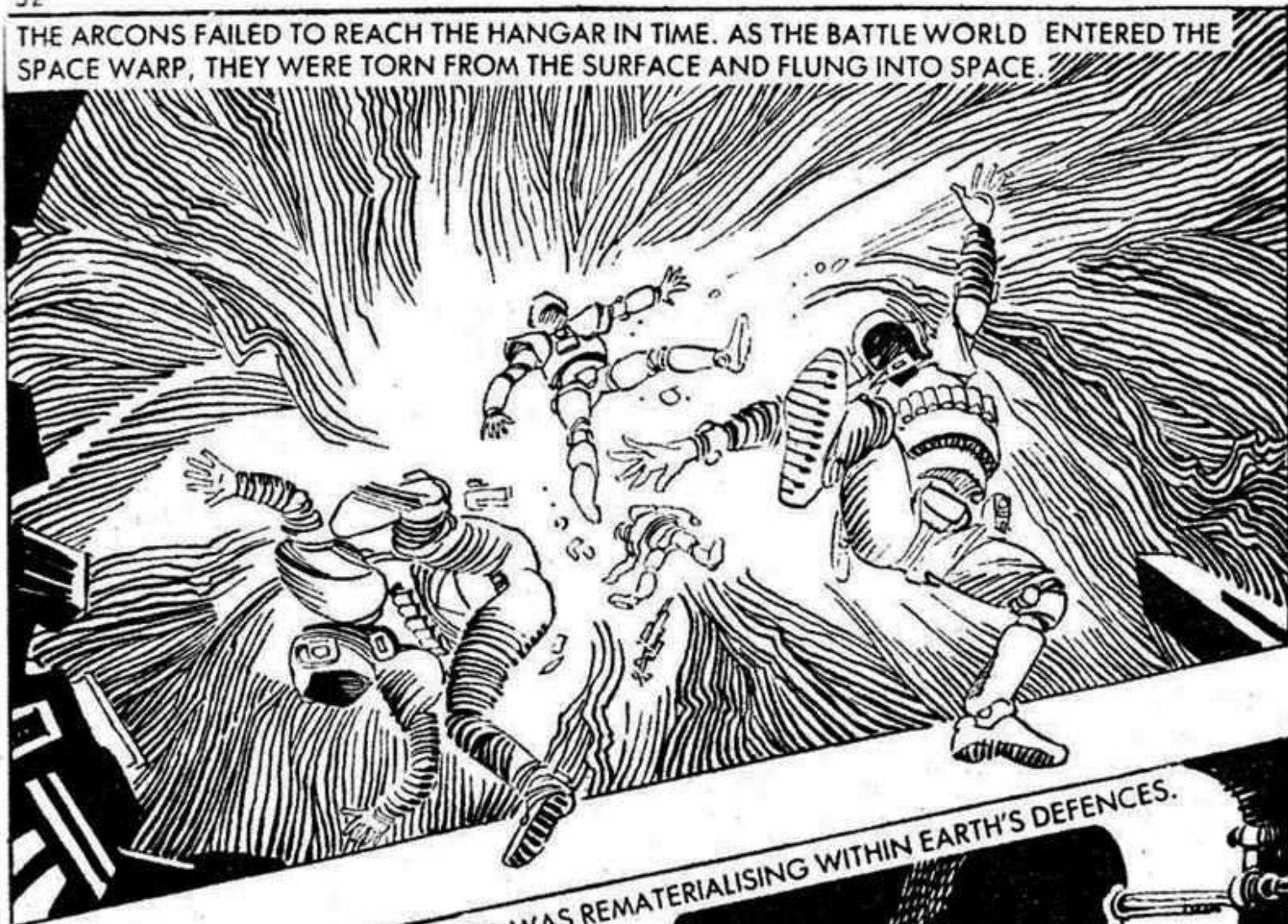


THE NEXT INSTANT—





THE ARCONS FAILED TO REACH THE HANGAR IN TIME. AS THE BATTLE WORLD ENTERED THE SPACE WARP, THEY WERE TORN FROM THE SURFACE AND FLUNG INTO SPACE.



ONCE AGAIN, THE STARFIGHTER  
SQUADRONS WERE ALERTED

ALIEN INTRUDER CLOSING ON  
ATTACK TRAJECTORY . . . ALL  
FLIGHTS CLOSE IN AND ENGAGE!



ON THE BATTLESTAR—

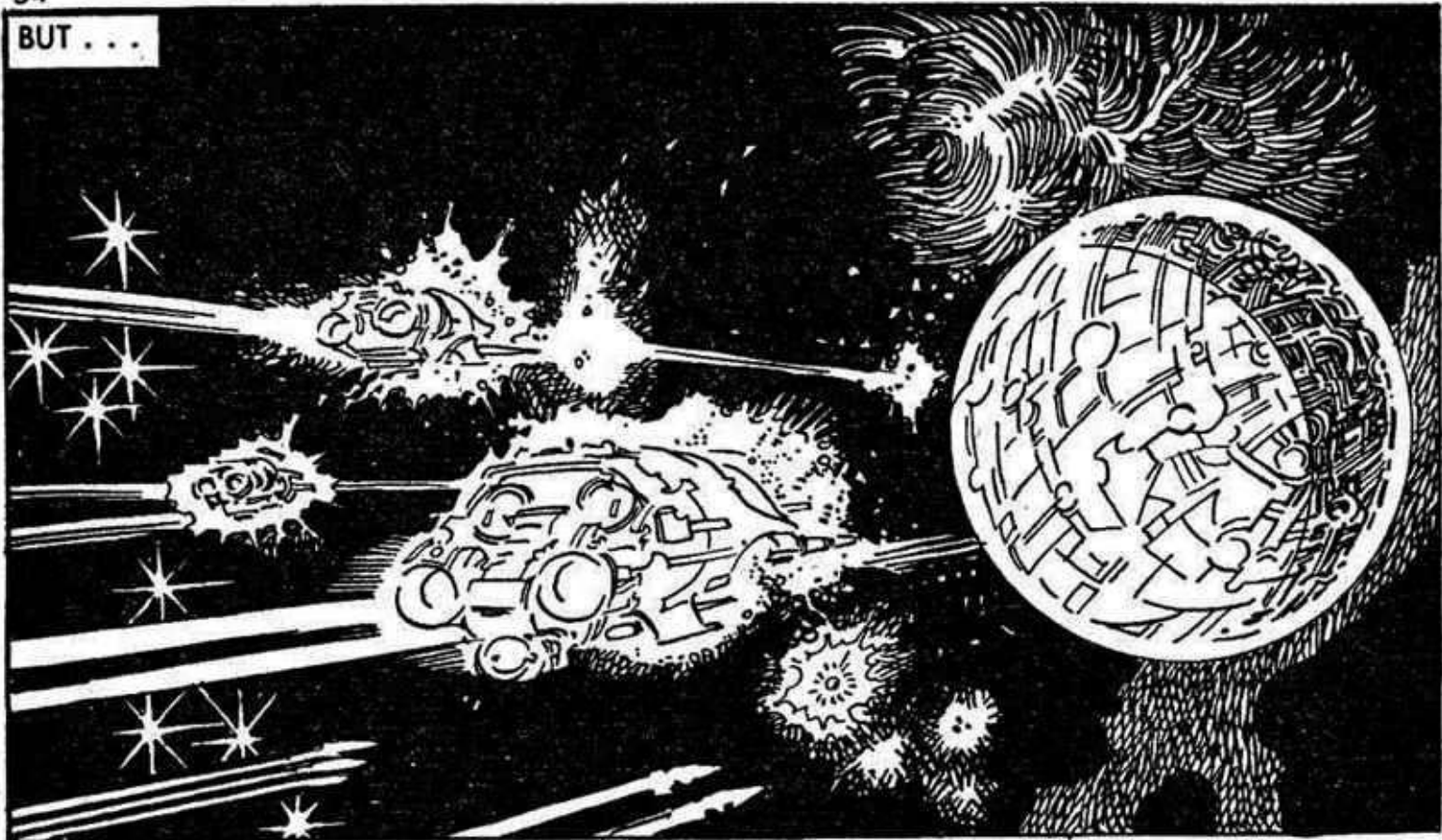
YOUR EARTH SHIPS FLY TO THEIR  
DOOM. THEY CANNOT HOPE TO  
MATCH OUR WEAPONS.

DON'T BE SO SURE.

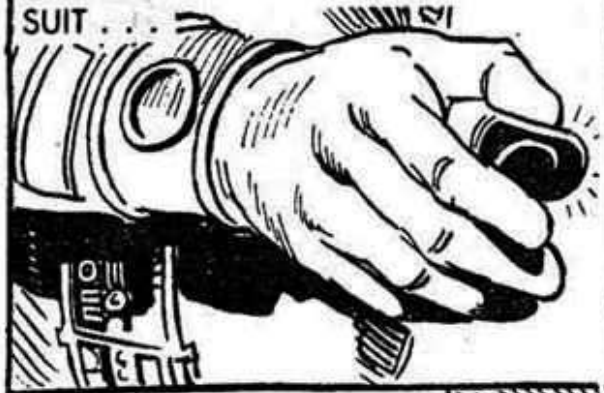




BUT . . .



HAL STEALTHILY REMOVED AN  
EMERGENCY FLARE FROM HIS SPACE  
SUIT . . .



AHH — MY EYES!



. . . AND DROPPED IT.



IN THE CONFUSION, HAL GRABBED ONE OF THE GUNS.





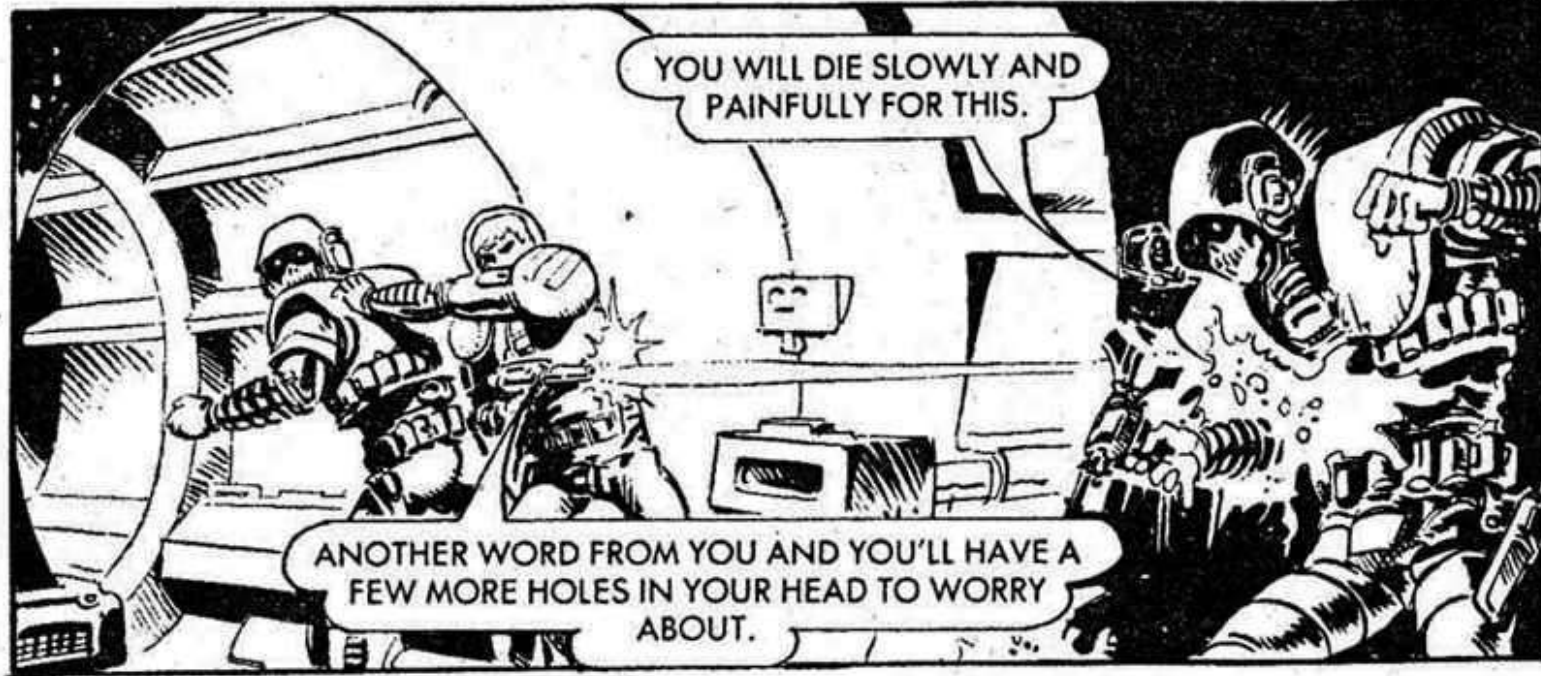
KEEP BACK, ALL OF YOU — OR I KILL HIM.

DO AS HE SAYS — DON'T TRY ANYTHING.



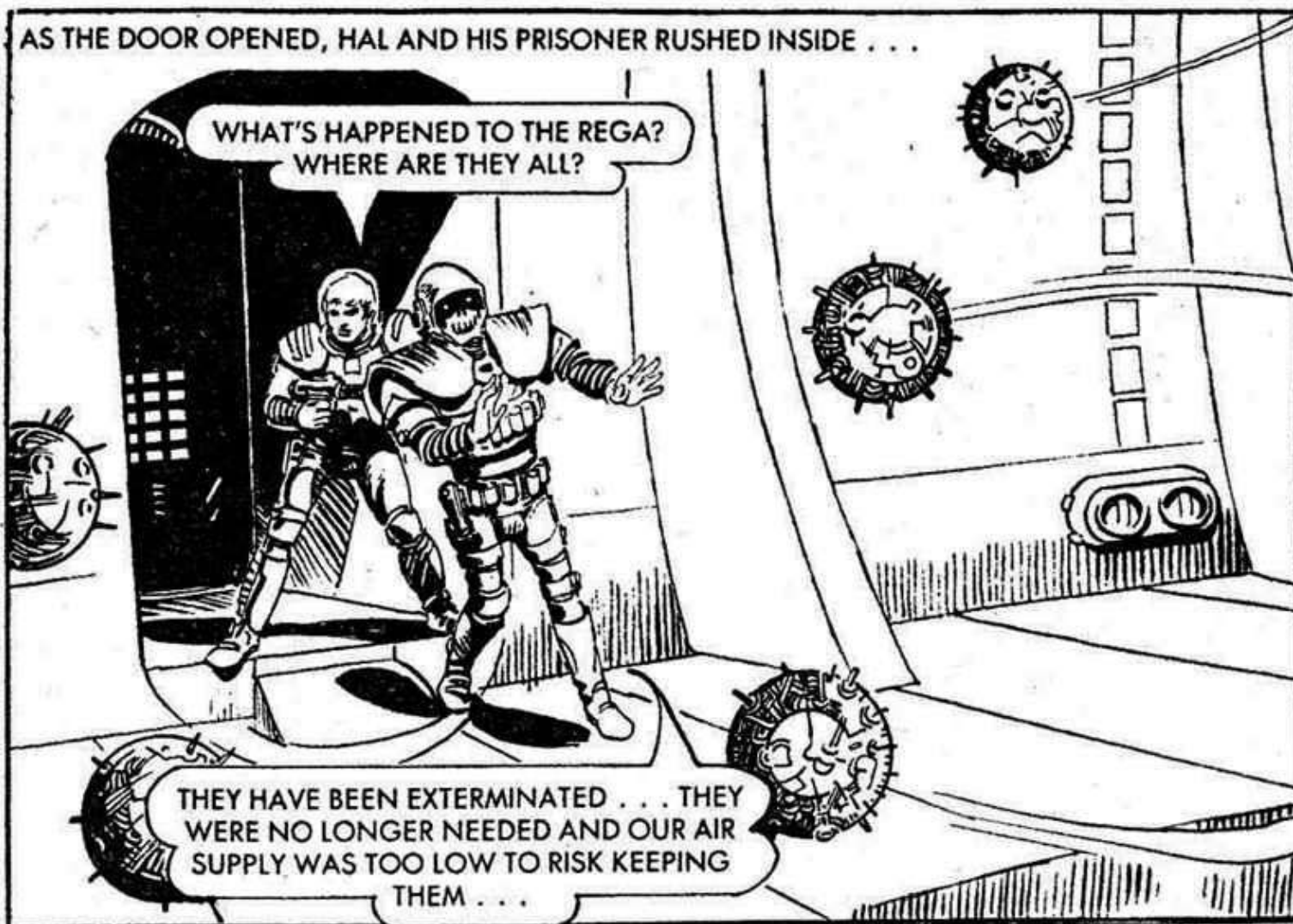
YOU CAN DO NOTHING, EARTHMAN. EVEN IF YOU KILL HIM, WE STILL DESTROY YOUR PLANET.

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT. JUST KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.



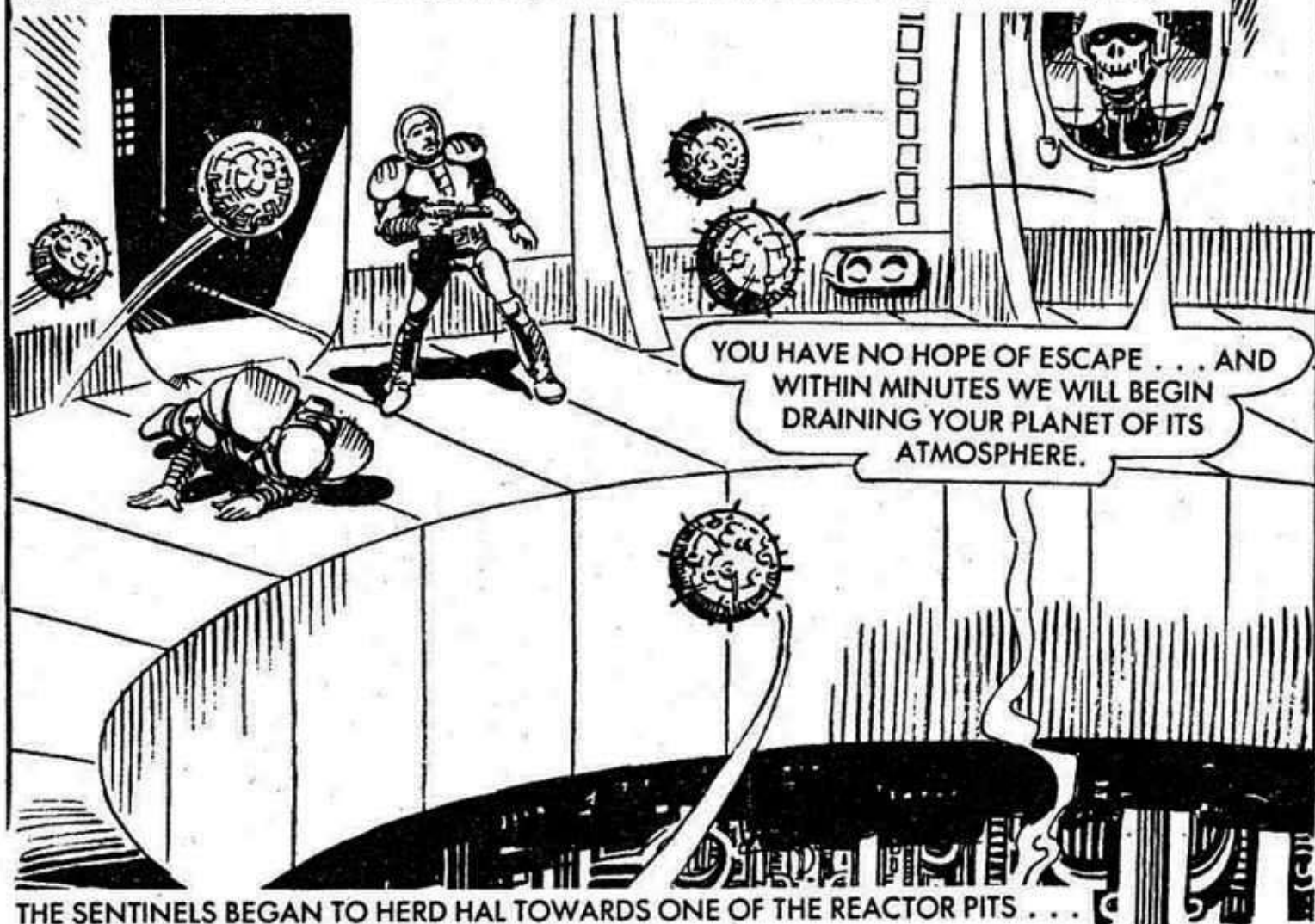
YOU WILL DIE SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY FOR THIS.

ANOTHER WORD FROM YOU AND YOU'LL HAVE A FEW MORE HOLES IN YOUR HEAD TO WORRY ABOUT.

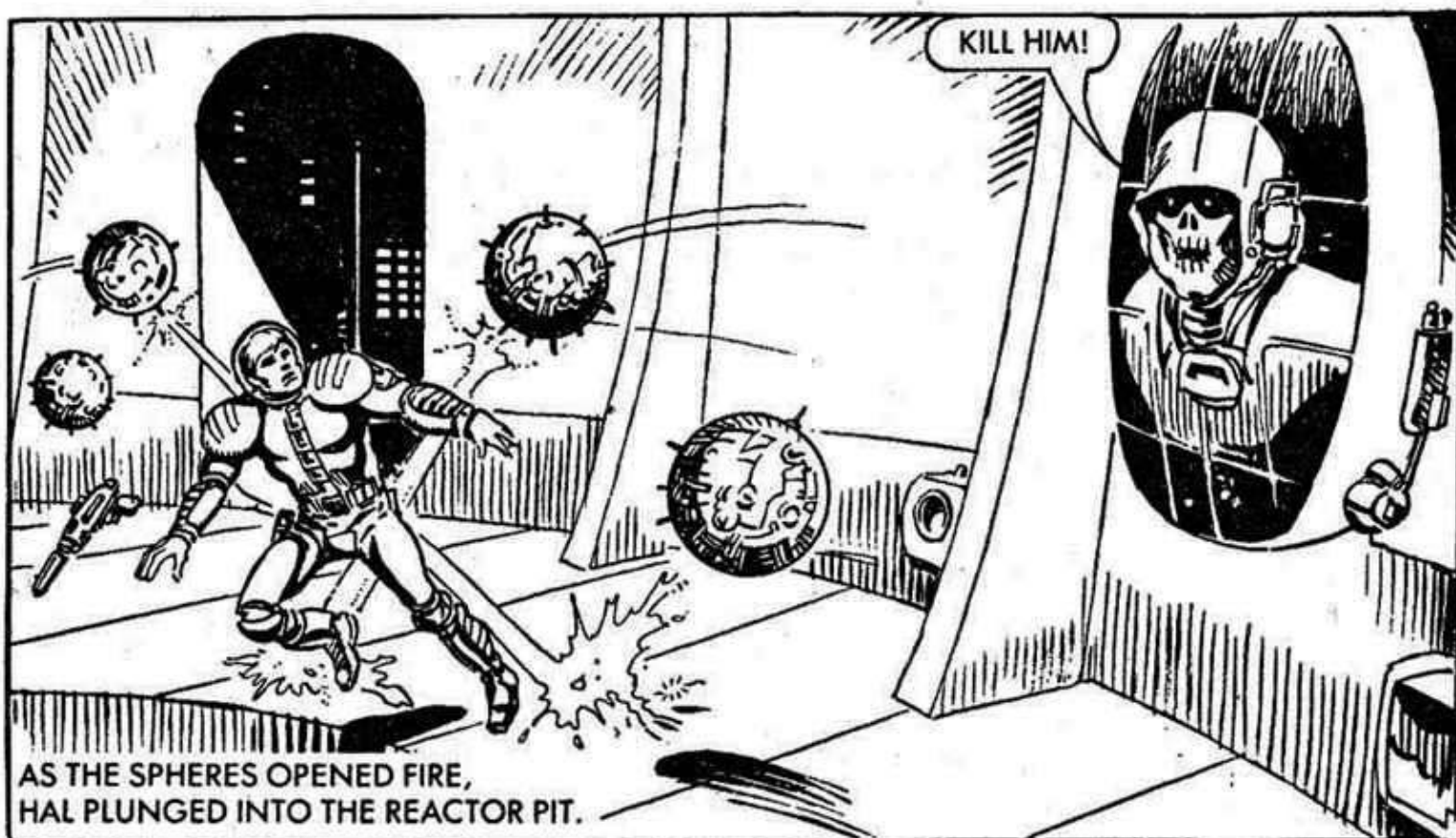




THE CONTROLLER SUDDENLY SLUMPED, AFFECTED BY RADIATION FROM THE REACTOR . . .

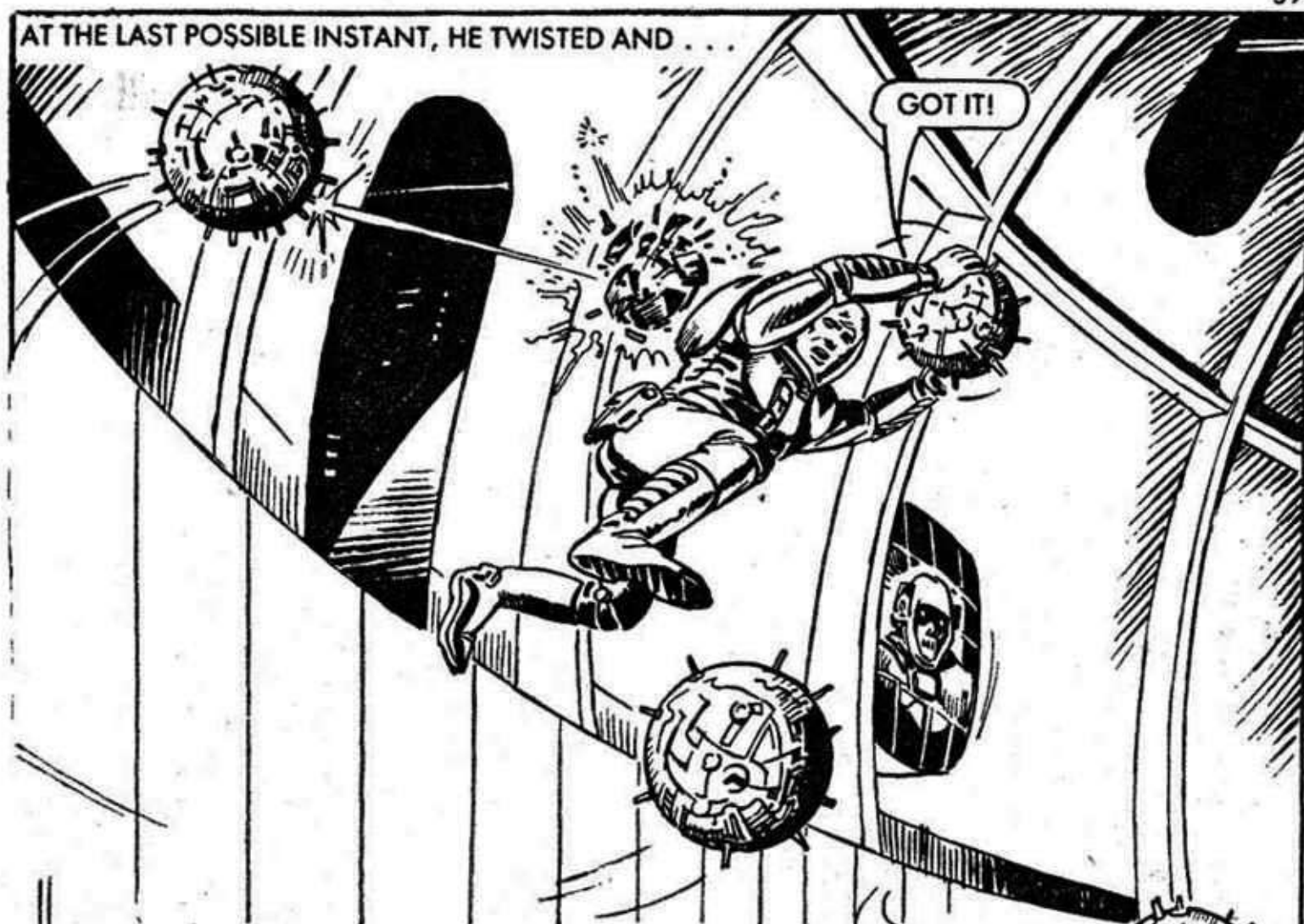


THE SENTINELS BEGAN TO HERD HAL TOWARDS ONE OF THE REACTOR PITS . . .



AS THE SPHERES OPENED FIRE,  
HAL PLUNGED INTO THE REACTOR PIT.

AT THE LAST POSSIBLE INSTANT, HE TWISTED AND . . .




THAT WAS FOOLISH. YOU ARE MERELY  
PROLONGING YOUR DEATH. IF YOU HAD FALLEN,  
YOU WOULD HAVE DIED SWIFTLY.



THE SENTINELS CLOSED IN . . .




THEN—



AM I GLAD TO  
SEE YOU TWO . . .

JUMP, HAL, BEFORE THEY  
DEACTIVATE THE SPHERE.

HAL JUMPED FOR THE FLOOR AND RAN.



UP HERE, HAL . . . WE HAVE  
CONTROL OF THE HANGAR DECK.

DO NOT LET THEM ESCAPE!  
DESTROY THEM!

THE REGA PRISONERS ARE DEAD —  
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

BACK ON THE BRIDGE—

THE REBELS CAN DO NOTHING. WE ARE WITHIN  
RANGE OF EARTH . . . PREPARE THE  
ATMOSPHERE SCOOPS.




BELOW DECK—

GET YOUR PEOPLE INTO THE ARCON SPACE  
CRAFT, WE MUST TRY AND GET CLEAR OF THE  
BATTLESTAR. LEM, YOU COME WITH ME IN THE  
STARFIGHTER.






EVEN AS HAL AND LEM SPED TO THEIR CRAFT EARTH'S DEFENCES WERE BEGINNING TO FAIL . . .




IT'S NO USE . . . THERE'S NO WAY  
THROUGH THEIR DEFENCE SHIELDS, OUR  
SHIPS ARE BEING WIPED OUT.




WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN  
THERE, ON THE ALIEN'S  
SURFACE?

THEY'VE LAUNCHED  
A FIGHTER FLEET!

HAL AND THE REGA BLASTED CLEAR OF THE HANGAR . . .



THIS IS HAL STORM TO EARTH  
SQUADRON. HOLD YOUR FIRE —  
THESE SHIPS ARE ON OUR SIDE!



HAL! WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING  
TO YOU? WHO ARE THEY?

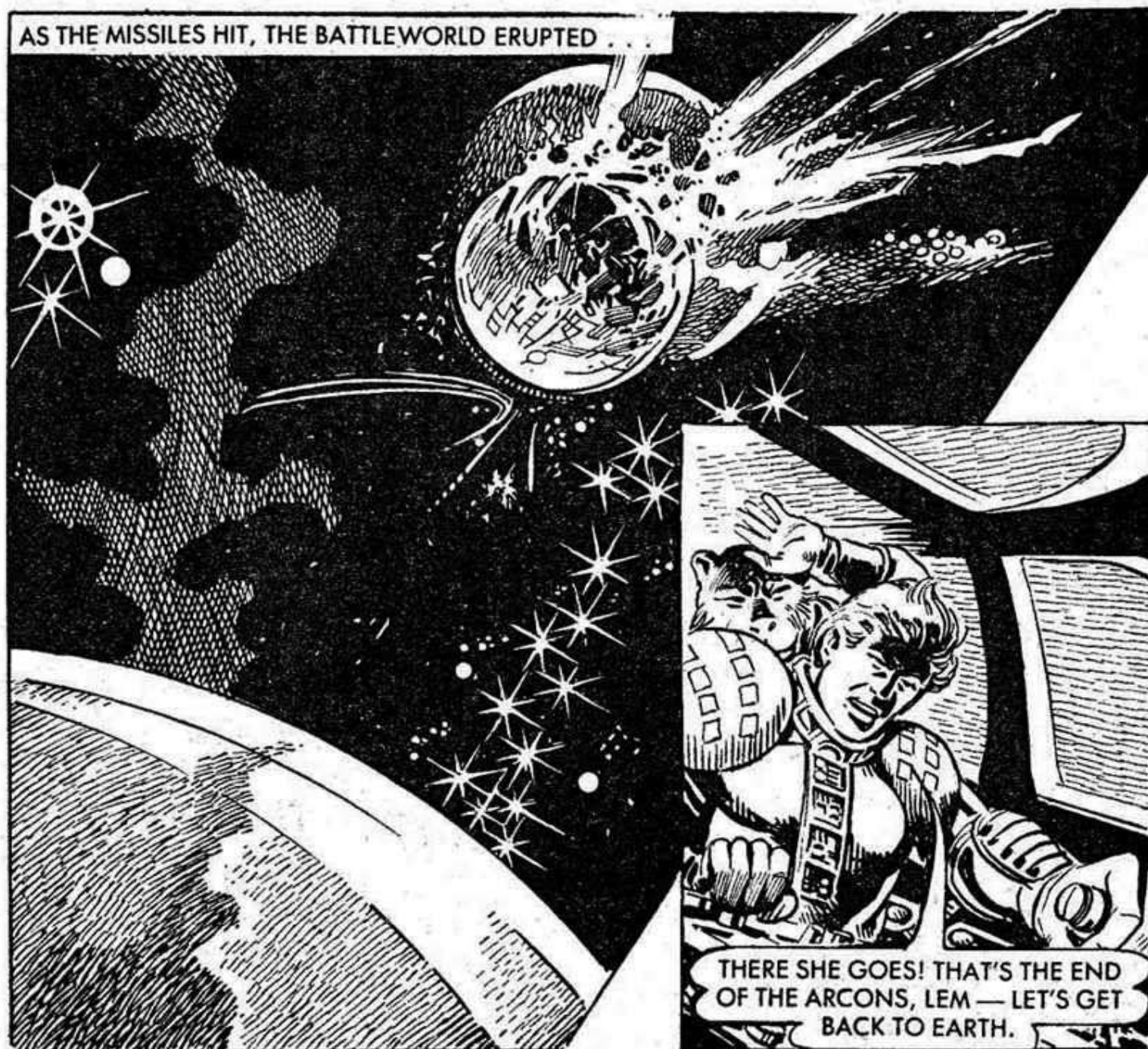





AT THAT MOMENT, OVER THE DEAD ZONE . . .



AS THE MISSILES HIT, THE BATTLEWORLD ERUPTED . . .




SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AT EARTH'S DEFENCE H.Q. ON SATURN . . .



OUR SCIENTISTS HAVE DEVISED A WAY TO DESTROY THE SPACE WARP, SO THE GAP IN OUR DEFENCES WILL BE CLOSED.

GOOD. BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO LEM AND HIS PEOPLE, SIR?



THE REGA HAVE OFFERED TO SHARE THEIR ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE WITH US IN RETURN, WE WILL PROVIDE A STARSHIP FOR THEM TO GO BACK TO THEIR OWN GALAXY BEFORE WE CLOSE THE SPACE WARP.

REGA WAS DESTROYED, BUT OUR PEOPLE ESCAPED AND WILL HAVE ESTABLISHED COLONIES.





**DON'T FORGET THIS  
MONTH'S *OTHER***

**STARBLAZER** (24p)  
SPACE ROLE-PLAYING GAME IN PICTURES No. 158

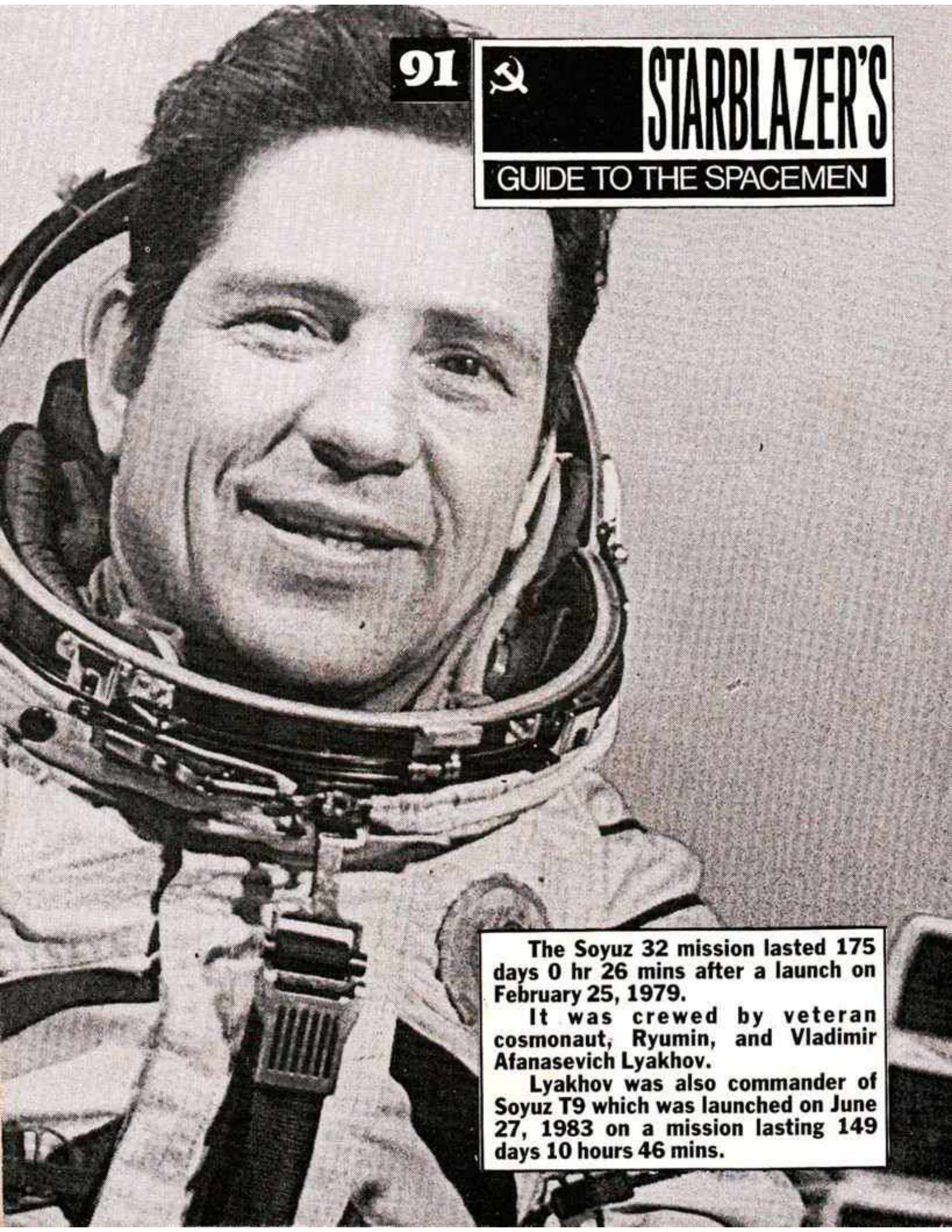
Robbed, plundered  
and humiliated  
by the brutal  
Nordmen, a  
peaceful tribe  
found a  
champion...



...and he needs YOUR help to defeat them!

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The Soyuz 32 mission lasted 175 days 0 hr 26 mins after a launch on February 25, 1979.

It was crewed by veteran cosmonaut, Ryumin, and Vladimir Afanasevich Lyakhov.

Lyakhov was also commander of Soyuz T9 which was launched on June 27, 1983 on a mission lasting 149 days 10 hours 46 mins.